

Arts Council proposes linking of grants to box office returns

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Arts Council is heading for another controversy over its funding policies with plans to make radical changes in the way it distributes funds to the main theatre, music and opera companies.

The council is planning to drop the "safety net" system which guarantees companies against loss. In its place will come simple cash grants, and a message to the companies that they will be able to keep any profits they make, but will have to survive any losses on their own.

The shift towards a more box-office oriented system will be welcomed by some of the large companies. The National Theatre has complained that the deficit financing system encouraged bad housekeeping and punished financially suc-

cessful companies such as itself which must hand profits to the Arts Council.

But other companies are likely to oppose the idea, which may be introduced in 1986. The main criticism of the scheme, as the council appreciates, is that it could give the council a more direct role in deciding the output of a company. By linking reward to box-office returns, it may also work against the production of new writers, whose early work almost invariably attracts uncommercial audiences.

Council officers who are working on the idea are aware that it could become as controversial as this year's shift in arts funds to the regions. But a two-day meeting of the council earlier this week called

for a further report on switching to the new system. Given the dissatisfaction within the council about the deficit financing principle, a change in the way the council distributes funds seems certain. The council would be unlikely to attempt to make decisions on individual productions, but would offer a fixed amount to cover various cost centres in the large companies it supports.

It would then be left to the companies to make their budgets meet their relevant targets and, if their productions are a success, keep the profits.

Mr Luke Rittner, the council's secretary-general, has been known to be an opponent of deficit funding, and has said that he regarded it as a way of supporting poor management.

MPs asked to fight munitions job losses

By Patricia Clough

Unions were yesterday preparing a political drive to modify the privatisation of the Royal Ordnance Factories as the Government formally announced 1,819 redundancies in four of the 13 establishments. Some union leaders predicted strikes at the factories.

Directors of the four plants broke the news to the union conveners yesterday morning. Notices were pinned up in the factories and letters sent to the staff.

At Bishopston, near Glasgow, they were told that 602 jobs would be lost by the end of next month, at Birtley, near Newcastle upon Tyne, 595, at Chorley, 474, and at Blackburn, Lancashire, 145; all at the end of March.

In London, the Ministry of Defence emphasized that these were the "worst case" figures. If the factories got more orders in the next few months, fewer jobs would be lost.

Union leaders in some of the factories ordered an immediate overtime ban. "It looks bad if some people are being made redundant while others are earning money working overtime," Mr Gerry Ferguson, the General and Municipal Workers' Union convenor at Birtley, where one third of the jobs are threatened, said.

The redundancies affect areas where unemployment is more than 20 per cent, Mr Allen Adams, Labour MP for Paisley North, said the job losses at Bishopston were a "bloody disaster" for the town, where unemployment was 60 per cent in parts.

Ministry of Defence officials said the redundancies were mainly due to work on the joint British-German-Italian 155mm FH70 field howitzer project being switched to West Germany. That, they said, was unavoidable as Britain had already done more than its fair share of the work. Orders had also dropped off because the British Armed Forces had finished restocking with arms and ammunition depleted by the Falklands conflict.

The move came after the bill to privatise the Royal Ordnance Factories received the Royal Assent on Wednesday. Union leaders were sceptical of the assurances by Mr John Lee, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Defence Procurement, in the Commons last week, that the redundancies were not designed to make the future company Royal Ordnance plc more attractive to investors.

The unions were preparing, through MPs, to bring "massive pressure" on the Government to maintain the factories' historic role as preferred source of weapons and ammunition to the British forces.



The Archbishop of Canterbury (right) gives a £50,000 Christian Aid cheque to Cardinal Hume, who will deliver it to a relief group in Ethiopia (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Provisionals rethink poll plan

From Richard Ford, Dublin

The Provisional IRA's political wing begins a two-day conference in Dublin today at which the attempted assassination of Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Cabinet will be discussed.

Mr Gerry Adams, president of Provisional Sinn Féin, will face the conference after a year of mixed fortunes for the "armalite and ballot box" strategy and amid indications that the political wing's electoral tactics are being reassessed.

The ambitious expectations for the electoral strategy which was fully endorsed only 12 months ago have not materialized.

The party suffered a setback by getting only 91,000 votes against 147,000 for the Social Democratic and Labour Party in the European election in Northern Ireland.

Although there are tensions within the movement, there is no dispute about politics versus the bomb and bullet. It remains a dual strategy with the leadership of Provisional Sinn Féin accepting that only military force would finally force Britain to withdraw from Northern Ireland.

The reassessment of electoral strategy may mean that the party will not make a frontal assault against the SDLP in next year's local government elections, but instead mount a limited campaign aimed at winning seats in Provisional strongholds. That, it may hope, could allow the party to hold the balance of power on local councils.

Such a strategy would expose divisions within the SDLP and force it to take a more hardline approach.

The legal provision barring anyone from standing for public office, if he has been in prison up to five years before an election has meant that many of Provisional Sinn Féin's prospective candidates, who as young men were politicized by the experience of imprisonment, will not be able to stand in the election.

Provisional Sinn Féin is also understood to be having difficulty in attracting the right calibre of candidates to stand for election, with many youngsters being unimpressed by the achievements of political activists.

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Democratic and Labour Party in the European election in Northern Ireland.

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Another new owner for Aston Martin

By Clifford Webb

Aston Martin Lagonda, the Newport Pagnell based car manufacturer, has been rescued again from the brink of bankruptcy. Ownership of the company has just changed hands for the eleventh time in its 60-year history.

The latest financial crisis was surprising, because the company's fortunes seemed to have become more secure.

From a peak of 170 cars in 1978 sales had fallen to 30 in 1982. This year the company had planned to make 90 cars with the US taking 70 of the cars that sell between £45,000 and £100,000.

Aston ran into cash-flow problems as it tried to meet that extra demand and was unable to pay some of its suppliers.

Two of the company's three Greek-American owners, the brothers Nick and John Papanicolaou, suffered financial setbacks in their shipping interests and were forced to sell their 66 per cent holding.

The third member of the triumvirate, Mr Peter Livanos, stepped in and increased his shareholding to 75 per cent. The remaining 25 per cent has been taken up by Mr Victor Gauntlett, a former shareholder and chief executive for the past four years.

Fifty-eight of the company's workers have since been made redundant and production has been cut from five to four cars a week.

Mr Gauntlett said yesterday: "The Livanos family are extremely wealthy and very happy about their increased involve-

ment. Not since David Brown's early days has Aston Martin had such major resources behind it."

Sir David Brown, head of the David Brown Corporation, owned Aston Martin for 30 years until 1972.

Talks between the unions and management at Aston Rover were continuing last night in an attempt to avert the strike of the company's 28,000 manual workers called for Monday.

Union representatives had met earlier in the day to rubber stamp the result of Thursday's mass meetings which they claimed had voted overwhelmingly for a strike.

However, within an hour of yesterday's meeting the unions asked the management to send a negotiating team to meet them.

The company, however, is refusing to increase its latest offer of 10 per cent over two years while the unions are demanding an immediate 20 per cent wage rise.

Jaguar Cars was at a standstill yesterday for the second day due to the pay strike by its 7,000 labour force (the Press Association reports).

Production stopped on Wednesday after disagreement over voting procedures at mass meetings at the three plants - two in Coventry and the other at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham. The company said the procedures were unsatisfactory and would not rule out the possibility of conducting its own secret ballot.

Duke's mail code is cracked

By Bill Johnston

Private messages left in the Duke of Edinburgh's electronic mail box, some addressed to other members of the Royal Family have been read by computer enthusiasts who cracked his pass code.

The security breach happened on the Prestel information system operated by British Telecom.

The system offers information on many subjects as well as offering users the facility to send and receive electronic mail. The Duke is a regular user of the service.

Hundreds of codes have been changed by British Telecom to prevent a recurrence. The enthusiasts were able not only to work out the Duke's six-figure pass code but were also able to use a similar technique to change information on a Financial Times file containing business information. They changed the stated exchange rate of the pound to \$50.

The incident has embarrassed British Telecom. An official said: "We are treating it very seriously. We were aware of a lapse in Prestel security several days ago; as a result we have changed all the identity codes to information providers. We are also advising all customers to change their own identity codes."

There are about 160 information providers who write the information on the Prestel pages, assigned by 1,000 subcontractors. Any breach in the security codes would allow the computer pages to be altered illegally.

Journalists move to protect NUJ jobs

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

A clash between the National Union of Journalists and the National Graphical Association over a new technology deal at Portsmouth and Sunderland newspapers is set to enter a new and more serious phase.

Journalists' leaders are seeking a meeting with management to persuade them to drop a crucial part of the agreement which provides for three NGA members to take editorial jobs.

The NUJ chapel (office branch) at The News, Portsmouth, has accepted its national colleagues' proposal to the proposal and urged them to seek new meetings with the company. The chapel had previously signed an agreement which implicitly accepted the arrangement.

National leaders of the NGA saw management last week in an effort to ensure that its new foothold on the editorial floor

would not be loosened after representations by journalists' leaders.

It now seems likely that the deal will go through, but the NUJ leadership is determined it will not be officially recognized by the NUJ and will not provide a precedent.

Leaders of 30,000 Fleet Street print workers yesterday rejected a 3 per cent pay offer from the Newspaper Publishers' Association. Print union leaders who have put in a claim for 12 per cent and an extra week's holiday a year described the offer as totally inadequate. Talks are due to resume on November 13.

The NPA told printers' representatives that there could be more money if they pledged stricter adherence to the industry's disputes procedure and accepted the principle of non-automatic replacement of staff.

Dell ban on Chelsea supporters

Chelsea football supporters, accused of terrorizing children and old people when violence erupted after a 1-0 defeat at Southampton, were banned yesterday from future visits to Southampton's ground, The Dell.

The Southampton Football Club decided that only their own season-ticket holders, and those with special vouchers, would be admitted to future home games with Chelsea. The vouchers would be issued at a home match.

Mr Brian Tuscott, secretary of Southampton FC, said: "With Chelsea it is not a minority who cause trouble, it is a hell of a lot. We would rather have a lower gate and lose money than have this repeated."

Mr Ken Bates, Chelsea Football Club chairman, reacted angrily to news of the ban. "I think it's a bit of sensation seeking for domestic consumption."

St George's head demoted

Just 16 months after being appointed headmaster of St George's, the boys' public school at Great Eborac, near Stowmarket, Suffolk, Mr Jeffrey Robinson, aged 49, has been demoted to joint headmaster.

In September 1982, St George's was the subject of a *Checkpoint* investigation on Radio 4, which alleged excessive corporal punishment. The subsequent report by Her Majesty's Inspectors cleared the name of the co-founder and headmaster Mr Derek Slade, in March 1983, but he resigned shortly afterwards.

No reason has been given for Mr Robinson's demotion. He is understood to have reduced the number of beatings and boosted academic results. Now Mr Barry Slade, younger brother of Mr Derek Slade has taken over responsibility for discipline.

The parents of many of the school's 343 boys aged between eight and 17 are posted abroad with the services.

Mr Barry Slade yesterday was requesting that all questions from the Press should be put in writing. Mr Robinson, who is said to be disappointed, was busy teaching. The school is looking for a new headmaster.

Convicted killer struck again after 26 years

John Spriggs, a killer who escaped being hanged with a last minute reprieve, struck again 26 years later.

He battered Mrs Margaret Larkin to death with a steam iron before killing himself with an overdose of pain killers.

An inquest jury in Cardiff yesterday returned a verdict of unlawful killing on Mrs Larkin, aged 53, and a verdict of suicide on Spriggs, aged 56.

The former fireman was sentenced to death in 1957 after shooting a barman in a public house in Birmingham. But two days before he was due to hang, his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment.

He was released on licence in 1978 and moved to Cardiff to stay with Mrs Larkin.

The inquest was told that the pair had frequent arguments. A suicide note was found beside Spriggs body.



On target: Squadron Leader Pete Dunlop, aged 35 (left), and Flight Lieutenant Dick Middleton, aged 33, Tornado pilot and navigator who won the Curtiss Le May trophy for high and low-level bombing.

Tornado's striking success in contest

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Air Force's new Tornado strike aircraft have had an outstanding success in competition in the United States against aircraft of the US and Australian air forces.

Taking part in the US Strategic Air Command bombing competition they came first and second in the competition for the Curtiss Le May trophy, for high and low-level bombing, won a second trophy, and were runners-up for a third trophy.

It was the first time that the RAF had competed since 1980, when they were represented by the Vulcan bomber which has now been phased out of service.

The Tornado was competing against American B-52 and F-111 bombers and also Australian F-111s. Although the Tornado had the advantage of being the most modern of the aircraft, it had the disadvantage of competing in roles, such as medium and high-level bombing, for which it was not designed, and was also the only aircraft involved which had to use air-to-air refuelling.

The Tornados, and their attendant Victor refuelling tankers, were drawn from squadrons stationed at RAF Marham in Norfolk, and had flown to the United States Air Force base at Ellsworth, South Dakota, for the competition.

The contest, spread over eight weeks, contained two phases, one involving dropping 3-kilogram bombs on invisible targets in the Nevada Desert, using blind bombing techniques while evading fighter and missile attack. The second phase involved sorties of about five hours, compared with the average Tornado sortie of 1½ hours, towards the Canadian border.

This success may well assist attempts to sell the Tornado abroad. The Ministry of Defence has for some time been in negotiation with Saudi Arabia about the possible sale of 40 Tornados of the type used in the competition, while British Aerospace is seeking to sell 16 of the air defence version of the Tornado to Oman.

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Policeman may have known killer

The detectives hunting the gunman who shot dead Police Sergeant John Speed on Wednesday believe the officer may have known his killer.

Det Chief Supt John Conboy believes the man who carried out the shooting may be a local man. "I cannot discount the possibility that he may even have been known to Sergeant Speed and that he shot him in a desperate attempt to prevent his arrest", he headed.

Sergeant Speed was shot dead as he went to the aid of a colleague, Police Constable John Thorpe, who had been shot while questioning two men seen tampering with a car parked opposite Leeds Parish Church. PC Thorpe, aged 37, was still "very poorly" yesterday.

Sale room

De Kooning sets £1.5m record for living artist

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Willem de Kooning topped all auction price records for the work of a living artist at Christie's in New York on Thursday when his small painting of "Two women" sold for \$1,980,000 (unpublished estimate \$750,000) or £1,596,774. It also beats all auction records for postwar art, overtaking the previous high of \$1.5m for a Rothko.

De Kooning was born in Rotterdam but settled in the United States in 1926 where his expressionist canvasses hovering on the line dividing realism and abstraction have become highly sought after. Another painting from his series devoted to "Two women" set the previous high for his work of \$1.27m.

The picture sold at Christie's on Thursday measures 22in by 28in and was painted in 1953. With rapid sweeping brush strokes and a fuz of colour he sketches in two naked figures.

The De Kooning was one among 10 auction record prices for individual artists established in Christie's sale of contemporary art which totalled £5.3m with 20 per cent unsold.

In London yesterday the National Portrait Gallery tracked down an important early-eighteenth century portrait for its records at Christie's. They spent £1,026 (estimate £600-£1,000) to secure a "Portrait of Mrs. Burnett" by Sir Godfrey Kneller. She was the third wife of Bishop Burnet whose *History of My Own Time* provides one of the most important records of the Restoration period.

Father freed

A father, who was jailed for life for arson on the evidence of his sons, was cleared by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday. Kirpal Singh's conviction was quashed because "there was such animosity in this family that the children might have rigged this incident". Mr Singh was convicted last October for starting a fire at his family's house in Redford, Feltham, West London.

Mr Justice Lloyd yesterday reserved judgment in the High Court in the action brought by Mr David Gempert, a Liberal councillor, who asked the judge to overturn decisions by Hackney Borough Council in east London barring him from a subcommittee's meetings.

Papers relating to a man's criminal record have been found in a Bedford Street, a few days before he was due to appear in court.

The Times history atlas

A new edition of *The Times Atlas of World History* has just been published by Times Books. Thousands of revisions have been made, including many new maps. The atlas is available from bookshops at £25.

The Times overseas selling prices

Australia \$12.95, Belgium 12.95, Canada \$12.95, Denmark 12.95, France 12.95, Germany 12.95, Greece 12.95, Hong Kong 12.95, India 12.95, Italy 12.95, Japan 12.95, Korea 12.95, Malaysia 12.95, Mexico 12.95, New Zealand 12.95, Norway 12.95, Portugal 12.95, Singapore 12.95, South Africa 12.95, Sweden 12.95, Switzerland 12.95, Taiwan 12.95, Thailand 12.95, United Kingdom 12.95, USA 12.95, West Germany 12.95.

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Sites named for more garden festivals

The Government announced yesterday the venues

Incompetent doctors more likely to be found guilty of misconduct

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Incompetent and inconsiderate doctors are in future more likely to be found guilty of serious professional misconduct. In addition, the General Medical Council (GMC) is more likely to consider imposing conditions on a doctor's continued right to practise in such cases.

The council decided yesterday to broaden its disciplinary proceedings to include a wider range of cases where it is alleged that doctors have failed to provide a proper standard of medical care.

Its decision comes after increasing criticism that the council failed to act effectively where doctors have treated patients incompetently and rudely, even when a patient has later died.

The move is an attempt to head off a private member's Bill drawn up by Mr Nigel Spearing, Labour MP for Newham South. His Bill would in effect allow the council to impose conditional registration on doctors found guilty of "unacceptable" conduct in such cases.

He drew up the Bill in the

light of a case in which a doctor failed adequately to examine, treat or admit to hospital a delirious boy aged eight who died of meningitis four days later. He kicked under the table a bowl of vomit the boy had produced.

When the child did not respond to a request to open his mouth the doctor said: "If he cannot be bothered to open his bloody mouth I shall not bloody well look in".

The council found the facts proved, and expressed concern at the doctor's conduct, but it found him not guilty of serious professional misconduct and admonished him.

He has since been found guilty of the charge in another case in which he told a woman who had a miscarriage to wrap the foetus in newspaper, flush it down the lavatory, and come and see him three days later. He agrees not to practise for the time being and was referred to the council's health committee.

The council is opposed to Mr Spearing's Bill, believing that to create a lesser offence of unacceptable conduct would

create confusion and injustice. But in an attempt to answer the criticisms, it has expanded its definition of serious professional misconduct.

The guidelines will state that doctors should assess a patient's conditions conscientiously, give a sufficiently thorough examination, and "competent and professional management".

Sir John Walton, council president, said yesterday that the council accepted that the public expected it to take note of a wider range of cases.

"These could include incompetence and lack of consideration."

Mr Spearing, however, reacted with caution. "Whatever the widening of the definition of serious professional misconduct", he said, "it appears that conduct which is not regarded as serious, but which is misconduct, is not to be covered by any statutory sanction."

He would consider the changes before deciding whether to press ahead with his Bill.



Model home: The Batty Doll's House which was stored under Brighton railway station during the First World War is to be sold at Phillips in London on December 5.

The doll's house, photographed above with Jo Skipsey a receptionist at the auctioneers, was built by Thomas Batty between 1908 and 1910 in Drighlington, west Yorkshire.

He took two years to weave the four carpets in the house. The dining room is oak-panelled, and the drawing room has Louis XIV style furniture covered with 22 carat gold leaf.

It has an estimate of £5,000 and the proceeds are to go to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Expert on dolphins broke law

A leading conservationist admitted breaking wildlife laws when he imported three bottlenose dolphins, Huyton Magistrates Court, Merseyside, was told yesterday.

Mr Reginald Bloom, of Mill Farm, Brighlinsca, Essex, pleaded guilty to four breaches of the Endangered Species Act 1976 concerning the keeping and movement of dolphins.

The case was brought by Greenpeace, after the Government refused to prosecute. The prosecution was the first under section six of the Act.

Mr Bloom, aged 62, was given an absolute discharge and the magistrates made no award

for costs. Greenpeace had asked for £1,343.

Mr Bloom, applied to the Secretary of State for the Environment for a licence to import and keep the dolphins at Flamingoland Kirby Misperton, North Yorkshire. Instead when they arrived at Heathrow from America on December 21, 1983, the dolphins were taken straight to Knowsley Safari Park, near Prescot Merseyside.

The move was discovered only when Mr John Eley, the department of the Environment's chief wildlife inspector, visited Knowsley on January 31 this year.

Mr Jonathan Caplan for Greenpeace, said the movement

took up the case because it was concerned by the high death rate among dolphins in captivity, and that they should be kept in the proper surroundings.

Mr Kevin Fletcher, for Mr Bloom, said that his client had and unimpeachable record generally, and particularly, regarding the keeping of dolphins. This man has been actively engaged in promoting conservation in this country, and throughout the world, for 20 years.

The breaches were a "technicality". The licence at Flamingoland Dolphinarium was due to lapse, and Mr Bloom had sent the dolphins to Knowsley until it was renewed.

'Toe case' torturers get 46 years' jail

Three men who brutally tortured Mr Harry Tipple, a newspaperman, and his wife Cicely, were jailed for a total of 46 years in the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Terence Bradford, aged 24, was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. He was dragged to the cells after a fight with prison officers shouting that he was innocent. Eight officers struggled to overpower him. Edward Mitchell, aged 29, was sentenced to 15 years and Bradford's brother Charles, aged 25, to 13 years.

Mr Tipple, aged 59, who had a toe cut off and stuffed into his mouth during the two-hour ordeal and his wife, Cicely, aged 56, were subjected to "unending violence and humiliation" by their attackers who mistakenly believed £50,000 was hidden in their home in Peckham, south-east London.

The jury convicted Mitchell, of Primrose House, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, Terence Bradford, of Carrisdale House,

St Leonard's Road, Poplar, east London, and his brother, Charles, of Gilling Road, Peckham, of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to Mr Tipple and to his wife in February.

Mitchell was found guilty of indecently assaulting Mrs Tipple. Charles Bradford was acquitted on a similar charge. The three were also found guilty of wounding Mrs Tipple and both Bradford brothers of robbing Mr Tipple of about £700, a charge to which Mitchell pleaded guilty.

Mr Justice Russell told the three men: "Originally your motives may have been robbery, they may have been to beat up Mr Tipple. But once inside the Tipples' flat the three of you tortured the poor couple for your perverted, sadistic instincts. The mental scars will remain with them for the rest of their lives and certainly they thought that their last moments had come."

The jury convicted Mitchell, of Primrose House, Peckham Hill Street, Peckham, Terence Bradford, of Carrisdale House,

Lost son's £850,000 for charity

The £850,000 left by a mother to her missing air gunner son in the belief that he was still alive is to go to animal charity, a High Court judge decided yesterday. Mrs Evelyn May Green, who lived at Boroughbridge, North Yorkshire, died, aged 90, on February 1, 1976.

She believed that her son, Peter, whose Halifax bomber failed to return from a raid on Berlin in 1943, would come back one day. In her will, she requested that, if he had not returned by the year 2020, the money should be used to fight animal cruelty.

Mr Justice Nourse granted her trustees permission to give the money to animal charities immediately. Seven relatives who had challenged the bequest will get nothing.

But the order preserves the right of the son, if he is still alive, to come forward and claim the money.

Jail term cut

Mr Justice Gibbons, QC, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, reduced from 30 months to eight months a jail sentence he had imposed on Wednesday on Rashnikant Patel, aged 42, of Vivian Avenue, Wembley. Patel admitted charges of deception and false accounting at the Citibank, Strand, where he worked.

Chemical alert

Ten people, including two firemen and a policeman, were taken to Derbyshire Royal Infirmary early yesterday after a chemical leak at the East Midlands airport near Derby. Four were released after treatment but the other six were transferred to Derby City Hospital where they were said to be satisfactory.

Family affair

Julia McArdle, aged 19, of Preston Park, North Shields, Tyne and Wear, was fined £100 with £12 costs by the town's magistrates on Tuesday after failing the Carnic electronic breath test machine invented by her father, Mr Geoffrey McArdle.

Couple will still run newsagents

Harry Tipple and his wife, Cicely, thought of giving up the newsagent's shop where they suffered horrifying torture. "But if we did, the robbers would have won", Mr Tipple said yesterday.

Now they are trying to recover from the physical and mental damage caused by what Mr Roy Amiot, for the prosecution, described as an "awesome crime, unparalleled in recent times".

Mr Tipple, who now walks with a limp, said: "As far as I am concerned, the sentences fitted the crime. You can see from the trouble caused in the dock, and he was stone cold sober then, what it was like for two hours. I was lucky to be carried out alive."

Mr Tipple said: "I really thought at one stage we were going to be killed. But I wasn't going to give them the satisfaction of telling them where the day's takings were."

Mr Tipple, an official of the Retail Confectioners and Tobacconists Association, said



Mrs Tipple and her husband: Thought they would die.

he had no intention of giving up the shop in Peckham Park Road, where he had worked for 30 years. "I am a little too stubborn to give up as a result of this incident."

While in hospital, the couple received more than 600 letters of sympathy and were "absolutely swamped" with flowers.

Mrs Tipple, a school secretary, said she felt "degraded and soiled" after the attack.

The jury was not told that the Tipples' shop was burgled while they were in hospital. A man has been dealt with for the offence.

Nor were they told, until they had returned their verdicts, that Charles Bradford had been convicted on a previous occasion for a break-in at the shop. In May last year he was given 200 hours community service for the offence.

Cheaper shopping

Day trippers boost for Belfast

By Richard Ford

The number of bargain hunters crossing the border into Northern Ireland is turning into a stampede as cars and coachloads of people arrive at the start of what looks like a huge pre-Christmas spending spree.

Border towns in the province are booming with a steady influx of shoppers taking advantage of lower prices while across the border in the republic businesses are threatened with ruin.

Last year day trippers, most of them from the republic, spent £120m in the province, an increase of 500 per cent. Whatever the political differences between the two parts of Ireland, they do not matter where business is concerned.

£330m duty-free sales

Air and sea travellers spend more on duty-free goods in Britain than anywhere else in the world, and Heathrow airport is the biggest single duty-free outlet, according to a survey by the magazine, *Business Traveller*.

Sales of duty-free goods in Britain top £330m a year compared with £200m in the US, £120m in West Germany and £110m in France. One franchise-holder, Alder International, sold £100m of goods at Heathrow and Gatwick last year, 25 per cent up on 1982.

	North	South
Bottle of Gordon's Gin	£7.39	£8.36
Six-pack Harp Lager	£1.59	£2.67
Ariel Automatic washing powder E-10 size	£2.69	£3.27
1lb Black Magic chocolate	£2.59	£3.60
Mitsubishi 21in colour TV	£389.35	£553.28

Although some Protestants will not spend money in the republic, no such inhibitions affect the people who pour north across the border at weekends.

Belfast is being regenerated by huge redevelopment in

commercial and residential property, bringing a growing confidence in its future and proving to be one of the significant success stories of the past two years.

Late-night shopping has boosted stores' takings, encouraging people to return to the city centre at night where they can use a growing number of restaurants, catering for a much brighter life than was ever imagined in the dark days of the early 1970s.

One official said: "The city centre is probably the only place where it does not matter what religion you are or where you live. People are out enjoying themselves."

The council has run campaigns to encourage people to shop in Belfast. Shortly it is to launch a campaign under the name "I love Belfast". During the next five years between £70m and £80m is to be invested in commercial property development.

A big investment drive by shops has begun, including an £18m extension which has doubled the size of Marks and Spencer, a £7.5m extension by British Home Stores and refurbishment by Littlewoods and C & A.

Mr Eddie Simpson, development officer for the city, said: "There is increasing confidence in Belfast. It shows in more crowds and a generally more relaxed lifestyle."

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Two more men cleared in Dr Clift case appeals

Two men convicted of a street attack 13 years ago on the evidence of the discredited forensic scientist Dr Alan Clift, were cleared by the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

The appeal judges, headed by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, acted after the Crown counsel, Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, said he would not oppose the appeals of the two which had been to the court by the Home Secretary.

But the judges rejected another appeal referred to the court after the discrediting of Dr Clift's evidence in a murder case, in spite of Mr Fennell's announcement that the Crown would not oppose that appeal either.

In the first case, Michael Szpytma, aged 30, of Bethels Road, Oulton Broad, Suffolk, and Alan Sample, aged 29, of Fieldway Court, Birkenhead, Merseyside, had assault convictions quashed and their sentences set aside.

Mr Szpytma had been sentenced to three months' detention by Liverpool Crown Court in November, 1971, and Mr Sample had been sent to borstal.

Each conceded having been near the scene of the attack in Birkenhead in August, 1971 on a Mr John Sweeney, but they denied any involvement in it.

Mr Fennell told Lord Lane, Mr Justice Stocker, and Mr Justice Fargher, that the scientific evidence of fibres given by Dr Clift in that case could not now be verified independently.

When the next case to be reviewed was called, counsel told the judges that he was not seeking to oppose that appeal either.

Lord Lane, however, said the court had no "reasonable unease" about the safety of sex offence convictions recorded against Keith Gordon, aged 54, at Sheffield Crown Court in July 1975, and dismissed his appeal.

Lord Lane said the court was prepared to consider the matter on the basis that Dr Clift's scientific evidence in the case had been "pitched too high", but the other evidence supporting the girl's version of what happened was overwhelming.

The Court of Appeal has now heard seven of the eleven cases referred to it by the Home Secretary, allowing four of the appeals. Three more will be heard on Wednesday, including the case of a German citizen given a life sentence in 1970 at Manchester for murdering his daughter.

Blueprint to save dock buildings

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

A new plan for the Chatham Dockyard, which was closed earlier this year, has been drawn up by Save Britain's Heritage. It believes that more than £2m can be generated from the sale of flats and houses after conversions to the dockyard's historic buildings. Its proposals include the adaptation for commercial or industrial use of other historic buildings providing a further £340,000.

Earlier reports had concluded that there was no commercially viable use for historic buildings such as the Anchor Wharf. The plans for the future of the dockyard are the work of Mr Marcus Binney, president of Save Britain's Heritage, and Mr Martin, who specializes in restoring redundant historic buildings.

The Royal Navy Dockyard at Chatham, established on the Medway in the sixteenth century, was closed on April 1. Since then it has been held by a trust under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General Sir Stuart Pringle which has received an £11m endowment to help breathe new life into the area.

Chatham Historic Dockyard - Alive or Moribund? (Save, 68, Battersea High St, London SW11 3HX, £4).

South-east has heart surgery lead

By Nicholas Timmins Social Services Correspondent

A study by The British Medical Journal finds wide variations between National Health Service regions in the number of heart operations carried out, with the health service still providing far fewer coronary by-pass operations than other countries.

The study, by a team of doctors and surgeons led by Mr Terence English, a heart transplant specialist, shows that in the South-west, Oxford and Wales, less than a third as many cardiac operations are carried out per head of population than in three of the four Thames regions.

For coronary by-pass surgery, which studies suggest may not prolong life but which does relieve angina, the gap is even greater - nearer tenfold.

In the five years to 1982, the South-west and Oxford regions respectively carried out 14 and 22 such operations for every one million, against 212 in South-east Thames.

The study says the reason for the big differences is partly historical. When open heart surgery was developed in the 1960s, most teaching hospitals, "often for reasons of prestige", sought to set up cardiac surgery units. As a result 16 of the 42 units are in or around London.

Havers sues RSPCA for 'punishing' inspector

The RSPCA is being sued by the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, for allegedly "punishing" one of its inspectors who gave mitigating evidence in a prosecution brought by the society.

The Attorney General was yesterday given leave by Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Nolan in the High Court in London to bring an action for contempt of court against the RSPCA.

Lord Justice Watkins, granting leave, described the case as "a very unusual business".

According to court documents it arose out of a prosecution brought by the RSPCA against a couple who pleaded guilty at North Walsham Magistrates' Court, Norfolk, in October last year of offences contrary to the 1911 Protection of Animals Act.

At the magistrates' court, and in a subsequent appeal against sentence at Norwich Crown Court, Mr Barrymore Roland Hill, the RSPCA inspector, gave evidence in mitigation. He was called under a witness summons.

He was accused at a later RSPCA disciplinary hearing of "acting in a manner reasonably likely to bring discredit on the inspectorate of the RSPCA by giving supportive evidence for the defendants in the prosecution brought against them".

The Attorney General alleges that the society acted in contempt by punishing Mr Hill for providing information which he was required to give by law.

At yesterday's court hearing, Mr Andrew Collins, counsel for the Attorney General, said: "What has happened here, on the face of the transcript of the disciplinary hearing, is that the offences which were alleged, has been the punishment of the inspector for having given evidence at the magistrates and crown courts."

The RSPCA were not represented at yesterday's hearing. The full hearing is expected to take place soon.

Rampton nurses lose appeal

Five Rampton Hospital nurses, given suspended jail terms in two separate trials at Nottingham for ill-treating patients, lost appeals against their convictions in the Court of Appeal.

The Court of Appeal judges held that the conduct of the trials, by Judge Hopkin, could not be criticized. But yesterday's decision goes against a Court of Appeal ruling earlier this year in a separate ill-treatment case that, because the allegations had been made by patients and former patients at a high-security hospital, special and strong warnings had to be given to juries hearing them.

Lord Justice May, sitting yesterday with Mr Justice Lincoln, said evidence from mental patients was "plainly suspect".

Lawyers for the five nurses said they would seek leave to appeal from the House of Lords Appeals Committee.

Police on alert in Warsaw

Tension spreads through Poland as 10,000 wait for priest's body to arrive

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

On the eve of the funeral of the murdered Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the mood here crackled and sparked like a faulty wire. Outside the priest's church, the twin-towered St Stanislaw Kosciuszko, about 10,000 people gathered in the bitter cold to await the return of his body.

The coffin will lie in state throughout the night and the crowd will form the nucleus of today's funeral gathering, expected to be one of the largest displays of support for the banned union since the martial-law crackdown three years ago.

The tension has spread to the port of Gdansk, where Solidarity was born. The local union leader, Mr Andrzej Gwiazda, plunging into a dispute with the more moderate Mr Lech Walesa, has appealed for a one-hour strike from noon in the shipyards. Warsaw factories will observe a three-minute silence for the priest, who is to be buried in the grounds of his church.

Police are on alert in the capital and reins are being pulled tight on potential demonstrators of the funeral Mass, which will be celebrated by the Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp. Headmasters have warned pupils that today is a working day. Workers at the Warsaw steel plant - which regarded Father Popieluszko as their priest - asked to fly their flags at half-mast, but were told this was only possible with the permission of the Interior Ministry.

The burial in St Stanislaw Kosciuszko represents a "short-term victory for the authorities because they will avoid major processions through the streets, but in the long term it will cause them trouble", the Solidarity spokesman, Janusz Onysiewicz, said.

The church has already become a shrine, not only for the priest, but for the union which he championed. Banners written in Solidarity script garland the fence. One says: "Good will triumph over evil" - the first part of the slogan being written in characteristic Solidarity letters, "wy" being printed as if in a Communist Party newspaper.

Rumours are rife here that heads have already started to roll. Sources say that the chief prosecutor through Minister, but in the long term it will cause them trouble", the Solidarity spokesman, Janusz Onysiewicz, said.

The body of the priest was taken by van from Bialystok where, monitored by a lawyer nominated by the Church, Mr Jan Olszewski, it has undergone an autopsy. The Government had at first wanted to bury the priest in his home town of Bialystok, which is far from the capital near the Soviet border. After church pressure, the authorities agreed to the present arrangements.



Time for mourning: A young woman grieves during a Mass for the murdered priest.

Behind the campaign euphoria

Sorrow of Reagan's last battle

From Christopher Thomas, Detroit

President Reagan is on his twilight campaign. After nearly 20 years it is the final quest for power, the last personal bid for election. To his campaign staff it feels almost like an early goodbye.

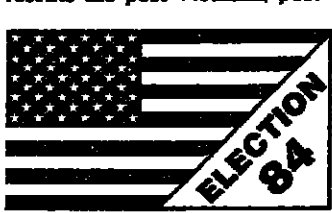
Mr Reagan's current 10-state, 10,000 mile swing is not so much a bid for victory as for a landslide. But it is a bitter-sweet time for his long-time, loyal campaign workers. The last electoral battle is almost done.

The final nationwide tour is a no-risks affair, every stop orchestrated down to the last quip, the last dry dig at his lacklustre opponent. The President says of Mr Walter Mondale: "If his administration were a novel, you'd have to read it from back to front to find a happy ending."

He talks a lot about youth, the very people who vilified him when he was Governor of California. Mr Reagan recalled the other day that there was a time when he could not speak on a campus because it would cause a riot.

The current generation of youth protests hardly at all. The oldest President of the United States packs them in.

People say Mr Reagan represents the post-Vietnam, post-Watergate generation. He is the first positive President they have experienced.



The campaign oratory is simple, emotional, corny, and effective.

To young people he says: "Your generation really sparkles. Your idealism and your love of country are unsurpassed. When the time comes to turn over the reins to you young people out there, we're going to turn over to you an America every bit as full of opportunity, hope, confidence, and dreams as we had when we were your age."

Ethnic voters: The Jews

Nerves jarred by religious rhetoric

From Our Own Correspondent New York

President Reagan's embrace of the religious Right in this campaign has cost him many Jewish votes. Jews are particularly sensitive about church-state separation and many have been made nervous by the religious rhetoric and imagery of the Republicans.

The President has sought to repair the damage by emphasizing his strong support for Israel. He has also tried to divert attention from the Christian fundamentalist pitch he made at the Republican convention in Dallas by stressing the convention's condemnation of anti-Semitism.

And he has carefully wooed Jewish voters by visiting synagogues and wearing yarmulkes or skullcaps. On a visit to a synagogue in Long Island, his aides handed out Yarmulkes bearing the presidential seal.

The Jewish vote and a number of cities, like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and Miami, have large Jewish populations.

New York's two million Jews are about a quarter of the city's people. In the states of New York, California and Illinois Jews may be key swing voters.

About six million Jews, twofifths of the World's Jewish

WHERE THE JEWS ARE

More than half of the roughly six million Jewish-Americans live in six cities:

New York	2,000,000
Los Angeles	455,000
Philadelphia	295,000
Chicago	253,000
Miami	225,000
Boston	170,000

population, live in the United States. Their numbers are falling as their birthrate declines and more of them marry outside the faith. Many feel that, overall, Jews are becoming less Jewish and more American.

They have traditionally been solidly Democratic. In 1968 Hubert Humphrey won 87 per cent of their vote. But in 1980 Mr Reagan secured 29 per cent to Mr Carter's 45 per cent.

Jewish Americans are, of course, sensitive about Israel and a politician's commitment to Israel is a basic test. In 1980, Mr Carter lost Jewish support for criticizing Israel's occupation of east Jerusalem and for his arms deals to Arabs.

Both Mr Reagan and Mr Mondale pass the Israel test, and have made numerous promises and commitments to Israel during the campaign. Congress has given Israel \$2.6bn (£2bn) for the current financial year and has authorized

negotiation of a free trade zone giving Israel duty-free access to the United States.

Most Jewish leaders have been offended by Mr Reagan's statements on church-state relations and his branding as intolerant those who oppose him on prayer in schools. The American Jewish Committee has said that "erosion of the principle of church-state separation has reached serious dimensions".

Mr Mondale has reminded people that the Rev Jimmy Swaggart, who preaches that Jews are not "saved", is "a welcome policy adviser at the White House".

But some Jews say they are not convinced that Mr Mondale has leadership qualities, and that he was not strong enough in condemning the antisemitic statements of Mr Louis Farrakhan, supporter of the Rev Jesse Jackson, and Mr Jackson's own reference to Jews as "hymies".

Khartoum trial

Khartoum (AFP) - A criminal court here began trying 10 people alleged to have plotted to assassinate President Nimeiry of Sudan and the First Vice-President, and to blow up the US and French Embassies. They were arrested in July.

The mob gloats as a murdering grandmother dies

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Over the past few weeks, Americans watched grandmother Margie Velma Barfield getting ready for her execution. They saw her on television, talking, knitting, giving interviews, walking in the jail corridors, exercising outside, clutching a mascot.

Everyone came to know her dumpy figure, bespectacled face and expression of resignation, a part of breakfast and dinner time viewing. Everyone became familiar, too, with the execution chamber and its equipment, the hospital trolley, the straps, the glass screen they would peer through to watch her dying. They followed the debate on whether the drug which would be used to kill Mrs Barfield could cause pain.

As far as was possible, television made the preparations for her execution and the event itself a public spectacle. Within minutes of her death yesterday, reporters among the 16 witnesses emerged trembling and sweating to face a barrage of microphones and describe in minute detail how Mrs Barfield was put to death.

"You could see the tension in her neck muscles," a young woman journalist said, gulping. "She was breathing fairly rapidly when she was wheeled into the room, but she seemed to gain control of that and relaxed about five minutes in. You could see the chest moving up and down... there was no jerking. You could see the colour draining from her face, from her ears, as she became ashy grey."

A man said: "Her mouth moved very quickly, she seemed to be saying something, she wet her lips and then became very still. She had her head turned, so we could not clearly see her face." One of the reasons Mrs Barfield chose lethal injection in preference to gas was that she did not want to sit in a chair and face a crowd of people as she died.

A prison official announced that the execution was smooth and painless. A doctor had pronounced Mrs Barfield dead 15 minutes after the drugs were administered. Her son came to the microphones to say his mother had wanted to live.

At 2am, as the executioner poured the poisons into the tube in her arm, there was a burst of cheering from a small crowd of young men and women outside the prison in Raleigh, North Carolina. They gleefully waved placards. Such celebrating mobs are becoming a feature of executions in America. They openly enjoy the entertainment. Another crowd, protesting against the death penalty, stood silently and snuffed out candles they were holding.



Mrs Barfield, aged 52, had been on Death Row for six years, convicted of poisoning her fiancé, and having confessed to killing three other people. She was the first woman executed in the United States for 22 years.

In the days leading to the execution, as television enabled people to get to know her, the preparations were carefully choreographed. She chose her coffin and funeral clothes and agreed to donate her organs for transplant.

The ritual of reporting executions always includes details of the last meal. One man recently chose oysters, as he had never had them before. Mrs Barfield chose Coca-Cola and a snack called Cheez Doodles. She dressed in pink pyjamas and slippers for her execution, said she was sorry for the hurt she had caused. Sometimes one of the television channels shows a colour chalk drawing of an execution. But, for some reason, that final little touch was missing from the otherwise full coverage of this one.

Israelis bow to three-month freeze

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

In an attempt to rescue Israel from crippling hyper-inflation of nearly 1,000 per cent, the Government of national unity yesterday finally secured the agreement of unions and employers to a three-month freeze on wages, prices, taxes and profits.

An emergency session of the Histadrut, the National Labour Federation, will be convened tonight in Tel Aviv to vote on the package, sources said.

The details were agreed yesterday in tripartite talks at the offices of Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister. The wages and prices freeze agreement came after publication of grim new figures from the Bank of Israel, showing that the country's much-depleted foreign currency reserves dropped a further \$94m (£76.5m) last month to a total of \$1,994m, compared with about \$3,000m.

The deal came after days of tough behind-the-scenes bargaining and increasingly desperate warnings from ministers about the dire state of the economy.

It is an important step forward for the national unity coalition which took office primarily to try to save Israel from the worst economic crisis in its 36-year history.

The package, sources said, included a three-month freeze on wages, prices, taxes and profits. An emergency session of the Histadrut, the National Labour Federation, will be convened tonight in Tel Aviv to vote on the package, sources said.

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China calls halt to 35 years of class war

Peking (Reuters) - China yesterday formally ended 35 years of persecution of people branded as "landlords, rich peasants, counter-revolutionaries and bad elements".

The Public Security Ministry announced that it had "remoulded" 20 million people since the communist victory in 1949 and had removed the damning label from the last 79,504 people convicted of belonging to the four categories of "class enemies".

It said 982 of those in the last group had been wrongly accused, and that the "class enemy" designations of people who had died or were now living abroad had been removed.

Namibia talks shift to Europe

Johannesburg - This week's talks on the Cape Verde Islands between South Africa and the United States, which have raised hopes of a settlement of the Namibia dispute, are to continue in Europe next week, according to informed sources (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has engagements in Italy, West Germany and Israel during the coming week and is considered likely to meet Dr Chester Crocker, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs, in Munich on Tuesday.

Tehran renews threat to US

Tehran (Reuters) - President Ali Khamenei marked the fifth anniversary of the student seizure of the US Embassy two days early by saying Iran would not hesitate to strike against American interests anywhere.

The United States must stop conspiring against Iran before relations could be restored, he told a mass prayer rally.

Trawler seized

La Rochelle (AFP) - The British registered trawler Alakiranda operating in a Spanish fishing fleet was boarded off the French Atlantic coast and brought into La Pallice in south-western France, where its catch was seized, maritime sources said. The skipper will be charged with using a net of undersized mesh.

Island crisis

Carcas (Reuters) - The Dutch island of Aruba faces economic collapse if Exxon closes its Lago oil refinery there, said Mr Betico Croes, leader of the majority party.

Greeks shiver

Athens (AP) - Two people died in a sudden cold snap as temperatures plunged to freezing point after a month of unusually hot weather. Weekend snow was forecast for Northern Greece.

Station siege

Colombo (Reuters) - Five civilians were wounded when Tamil separatist guerrillas surrounded and attacked Jaffna railway station in northern Sri Lanka with bullets and bombs, before police repulsed them.

Alpine squeeze

Baden, Switzerland (Reuters) - Switzerland is growing smaller by 3mm a year and the Alps are rising because the country is being squeezed between the land masses of West Germany and Italy, a geological study shows.

Police killers

Kampala (AFP) - Three Ugandan police constables have been sentenced to death by a High Court judge for murdering a man who died in police custody in Sese Islands, Lake Victoria.

Man bites dog

Durban (Reuters) - A Durban estate agent, being savaged by a bull terrier, bit one of the dog's ears, forcing it to release its grip, a court heard. He was awarded 1,000 rand (£410) damages.

FREE TO BIG & TALL MEN

20 pages of color photographs of the world's most beautiful women in 1984. 20 pages of color photographs of the world's most beautiful women in 1984. 20 pages of color photographs of the world's most beautiful women in 1984.

High & Mighty

Unions seek VDU limits

Geneva (Reuters) - An international trade union conference has recommended that union negotiators seek agreements with managements limiting intensive use of visual display units (VDUs) to no more than half an employee's total working day.

Many physical and psychological problems could be alleviated by reducing the time workers spent operating VDUs and the workload and work space at screens.

In jobs where it is not possible to sustain the half-day routine on VDUs, because of lack of suitable non-VDU work, there should be regular rest breaks of at least 15 minutes every hour for intensive use of screens, and 15 minutes every two hours for intermittent use.

Kasparov looks relaxed as 21st game begins

Moscow (Reuters) - Gary Kasparov, the challenger, appeared relaxed in the opening moves of his twenty-first game for the world chess title against Anatoly Karpov the champion and was pulling ahead on the clock.

Karpov, needing two more victories to retain his title, had white and began the game with Queen's Gambit Declined. White Karpov, Black Kasparov

Mubarak visit's open questions

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt ended his four-day visit to West Germany yesterday with a meeting with the Defence Minister, Manfred Wörner, at which they discussed military cooperation but without concluding any agreement on German arms deliveries.

The question of government guarantees to a German firm competing to build Egypt's first nuclear power plant also remained open. President Mubarak discussed this during his visit with the economic and finance ministers here.

The plan is seen as a high financial risk, and Bonn is hesitant to commit itself to anything that could be interpreted as increasing the military strength of Middle East states.

On Thursday the Egyptian leader called on the Palestine Liberation Organization to put forward its own peace proposals. At a state dinner the previous evening he criticized "fantasy circles" in the PLO which opposed peaceful coexistence between Arabs and Israelis.

Rajiv Gandhi's dilemma

'Mr Clean' tries to keep his image intact over choice of election date

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

As Mr Rajiv Gandhi, at 40 the youngest Prime Minister India has seen, lies down each evening in the comfortable surroundings of his late mother's home, one question is no doubt causing him newly crowned head to lie uneasily. When should he hold the election?

There is only one answer with full constitutional propriety, though there are many other possibilities to be considered. The more he looks at the problem, the more the constitutionally correct solution should be the one that suits his party best - and suits India best.

The five years of the present parliament's life end on January 30. Since it takes about three weeks to count the votes, the most appropriate time to go to the polls would be at the turn of the year.

Mr Gandhi could possibly put off polling until nearer the necessary date, dissolve Parliament and wait until the votes are in before assembling the new one, say on February 10.

This would be in keeping with Article 85 of the Constitution, which says that not more than six months should elapse between two sessions of Parliament. But some constitutional lawyers go even further.

The Law Ministry advised Mrs Gandhi a few weeks ago that she could, without breaching the Constitution, put off elections until May or June.

If Mr Gandhi were to summon Parliament for a short session later this month or in December, the Law Ministry opinion would mean that he need not hold the elections for six months from that date.

This would give him time to breathe, if that is what he felt he

wanted at present. But it would leave a particularly bad taste in the voters' mouths, and give the impression that the new "Mr Clean" was up to the same old chicanery as previous politicians.

For the same reason, a constitutional amendment to extend the life of the present parliament by one or two years would probably be ruled out. It would be reasonably easy to accomplish, since the Congress party has a two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha (lower house), but could well be counter-productive.

The likelihood is that Mr Gandhi stands more chance of being returned to power by an emotion-charged electorate if he went to the polls now, or as soon as is reasonably possible after the 12-day mourning period ends. Time will not have diminished the nation's sense of his mother's martyrdom.

It is also in the party's interest that it should go to the polls with a Nehru at its head. Name recognition - that instant knowledge of what a person's policies and attitudes are, simply by knowing his name - is extraordinarily difficult to build in this country.

In India it would be impossible for a Gary Hart or a Jimmy Carter to emerge and be recognized overnight. Television sets are few and far between. Newspapers are read by a tiny proportion of the electorate. The only way to build name recognition is by going out and meeting the public. With 700 million people to meet, this can be a time-consuming and expensive task.

Widows, sons and daughters become leaders of parties and often enough prime ministers in

this sub-continent, not because people love the dynasty, but because they know and recognize the name.

This, no doubt, is why the Congress party's senior cabinet ministers were keen to hasten the appointment of Mr Gandhi, and why they short-circuited the normal procedure.

There is no doubt that Congress wants Mr Gandhi as Prime Minister, as tomorrow's meeting of the party will show. To have appointed a caretaker Prime Minister and to have waited for the full meeting of the parliamentary party would have wasted valuable time establishing the new man and his team.

A caretaker was likely to have been someone with aspirations of his own, but none of the present Cabinet team could reasonably be said to have such aspirations, for they have no power base.

When Jawaharlal Nehru died, there were many Congress stalwarts who could well have taken on the premiership, each with strong constituencies on which to draw support. When Lal Bahadur Shastri died, there were a few still.

But Mrs Gandhi's pre-eminence and domination of the Government and party have been such that there is no one who could have taken her place, and no one now who can take on her son.

An immediate recourse to the polls would also catch the Opposition on the hop. Though they could attack Mr Gandhi for his inexperience, they could scarcely charge him with anything else. They cannot accuse him of corruption, of mismanagement, of maladministration.



Site of Sorrow: Workers prepare the area where Mrs Gandhi will be cremated today on the banks of Delhi's Januna river.

The funeral guests

A precise eye on protocol keeps most heads of state at home

Indira Gandhi's funeral today will provide a rendezvous for leaders around the world, not only to pay last respects to a great leader, but also to meet India's new Prime Minister - her son Rajiv - and to confer amongst themselves (Reuters reports).

Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Cabinet members have begun arriving in Delhi for the state funeral. Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, representing the United States, has said he hopes to meet Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister representing Moscow along with Mr Vasily

Kuznetsov, First Vice-President. But the absence of President Reagan, facing an election on Tuesday, President Chernenko, and certain other leaders will limit prospects of the funeral becoming a high-level informal summit, like some state funerals in the past.

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan will be one of the leading mourners. He has called for improved ties to overcome a long legacy of hostility with Delhi.

The communist world will be amply represented. In addition to the Kremlin delegation, the funeral is drawing Mr Henryk

Jablonski, the Polish head of state and Mr Stefan Olszowski, the Polish Foreign Minister. President Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria and Mr Lubomir Strougal, the Czechoslovak Prime Minister. Hungary is sending Mr Sandor Gaspar, the Vice-President.

Yugoslavia, closely linked with India in the Non-Aligned Movement, has sent President Djindjic and Mrs Milka Planinc, the Prime Minister and one of relatively few women government leaders.

China is sending Mr Yao Yilin, a deputy Prime Minister. Western diplomats in Peking said his rank was high enough

in protocol terms, higher than that of a Foreign Minister.

Perhaps the most influential Western leader to go to Delhi is Mrs Margaret Thatcher. Princess Anne will be representing the Queen.

In general Western Prime Ministers and Cabinet ministers are going rather than heads of state, due in part to protocol, diplomats said.

France will be represented by M Laurent Fabius, the Prime Minister, and M Claude Cheysson, the Foreign Affairs Minister.

Other prime ministers to attend will be Dr Garret FitzGerald of Ireland, Senhor

Mário Soares of Portugal, Senor Felipe Gonzalez of Spain, and Mr Andreas Papandreu of Greece.

Italy, West Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and Sweden sent their Foreign Ministers, Belgium its Interior Minister, and The Netherlands Price Claus, husband of Queen Beatrix.

Officials in these countries said the delegations fitted the occasion, while some said their prime ministers were tied up by prior commitments. A meeting in Ireland of European Community foreign ministers this weekend was postponed because of the funeral.

Army Sikhs

Mixing with other cults

From Our Own Correspondent Delhi

There were not many turbans to be seen in Delhi yesterday. Any Sikh who ventured on to the streets had to be bold, brave or exceptionally well-protected. There were no Sikh taxi drivers to be seen - a profession they have long dominated here.

But along the ring road, among the green-uniformed soldiers lounging in their lorries, negligently peering over the sights of their self-loading rifles or their sub-machine guns, were numbers of bright green turbans above fiercely bearded faces. For, where the Army is, there are many Sikhs still.

Many are organized into special Sikh units. There is a Sikh infantry regiment and a Sikh armoured regiment, though the Defence Ministry declines to say how many battalions there are in each.

The latest trend in the Army is to mix the Sikhs even more vigorously with the other religions in the forces. To that end non-Sikh officers are serving with Sikh regiments, and more Sikhs are correspondingly sent to non-Sikh regiments.

The British policy of building an Indian Army was to recruit from the "martial" races, the Pathans, Rajputs, and especially the Sikhs. The Sikh experience of hardship and martyrdom, their background of successful farming and their studiousness, made them classically suitable for military training.

The religion of members of the armed forces is not discussed by the Ministry of Defence, but the best estimates indicate that Sikhs form 10 to 12 per cent of their strength.

Death on the Delhi line

Passengers beaten and burnt

Delhi (AP, Reuters) - Hundreds of Hindu rioters attacked Delhi-bound trains yesterday, beating and burning to death dozens of Sikh passengers.

"Kill all the Sikhs," mobs shouted, according to one of the hundreds of stranded Sikh travellers huddled together at the railway station here, afraid to continue their journeys without an armed escort.

United News of India reported at least 28 Sikhs killed on four trains bound for the capital. "Whenever trains come on, bodies of Sikhs are taken off," said Mr Balvinder Singh, who arrived here on a train from Amritsar on Thursday afternoon, but chose not to continue to Bombay out of fear for the safety of his wife and two children.

The brutality was reminiscent of the communal carnage witnessed during India's partition in 1947, when Hindus and Muslims indulged in mass slaughter.

Bodies of four Sikhs killed on

the Bombay-Delhi Rajdhani Express were in full view two hours after the train's arrival. One body, shoeless and partly covered by a blue sheet, lay on a luggage cart. Others lay side by side, their legs entangled, on the platform.

A few carriages back, a Sikh lay face down on another connecting platform, his back charred by fire. Dozens of the train's windows were cracked or smashed. Glass and other debris littered the aisles.

Asked why the bodies had not been removed, a deputy station superintendent said: "We have to manage the stretchers, ambulance and police". Asked how many dead Sikhs had been brought in yesterday, he said: "Many more".

Mr Sidharth Bhatia, an Associated Press journalist based in Bombay, who was on the Rajdhani Express, said about 20 people armed with iron rods and stones broke into his compartment at the small

Tughlakabad station on the outskirts of the capital. They dragged a Sikh out of his seat by his hair, beat him with rods, pulled him outside, killed him and set his body on fire.

"The Sikh was thrown off the train, kicked and stoned and then the mob set fire to his body. I am a doctor and wanted to help him, but was locked into the compartment and could do nothing."

Dr Elizabeth Joyce, from London, was travelling on another train with her husband from Udaipur to Delhi when Hindus started exacting a blood revenge. Farther down the line, she and her husband saw another Sikh being pulled off the train. He was beaten to death with axe-handles.

"Mobs came in waves and attacked us and burnt and looted our homes and vehicles for 36 hours," Mr Kuldip Singh, General Secretary of the Akali Dal party's youth wing here said.

Superpower clash

Blaming of CIA arouses US fury

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan, asked whether the Kremlin might try to exploit the assassination, said: "I think that's always a danger with regard to the Soviets."

A State Department spokesman said: "We strongly resent the Soviet allegations that the US, and specifically the CIA, were involved in, or inspired, this action of political terrorism."

"It is quite a disgusting line of argument to suggest that the

US is somehow involved in this very tragic development."

In November, 1979, an angry mob stormed and burnt the US Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, after Iran Radio spread rumours of US complicity in the attack by fundamentalists on the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, is hoping to meet Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Soviet Prime Minister, when they are in Delhi.

Nicaraguans vote tomorrow

Sandinista fervour versus opposition confusion

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

As Nicaragua prepares to go to the polls tomorrow, the contrast between the fervour of Sandinista supporters and the confusion among sympathizers of the Opposition are vivid evidence of the deep differences within the country's revolutionary society.

The Sandinistas confidently expect to win an overwhelming majority and anticipate an exceptionally high turnout, despite the boycotting of the elections by the right-wing coalition of three parties which has attracted most attention among the Opposition.

Adherents of the single strongest opposition group, the

Independent Liberals, who might have expected to benefit from the coalition's abstention, find that their party has also officially pulled out. Yet its name and insignia remain on voting papers and candidates who disagree with abstaining are urging Liberal voters to go to the urns.

The other main party, the Democratic Conservatives, is also in a state of chaos. A meeting to decide whether to join the withdrawal was disrupted without a vote, leaving the possibility that some candidates may decline to take their seats in the National Assembly even if elected.

The four remaining parties are essentially small revolutionary groups, important within the Sandinistas framework of alliances, but relatively insignificant as serious alternatives for voters dissatisfied with the Government.

Dissatisfaction has grown out of inflation, food shortages and obligatory military service, the three domestic issues which opposition parties have focused on during the three-month campaign. But the central issue of the election has been the war against the US-backed counter-revolution, and sharply differing views on how to end it.

The ideology of the ruling

party has also become an important issue, with parties to the right of the Sandinistas questioning the sincerity of the Government's desire to give the Opposition a greater political role through the ballot box.

A national dialogue involving 30 social and political organizations has begun to examine the post-electoral state even before the country's 1.6 million registered voters make their choice.

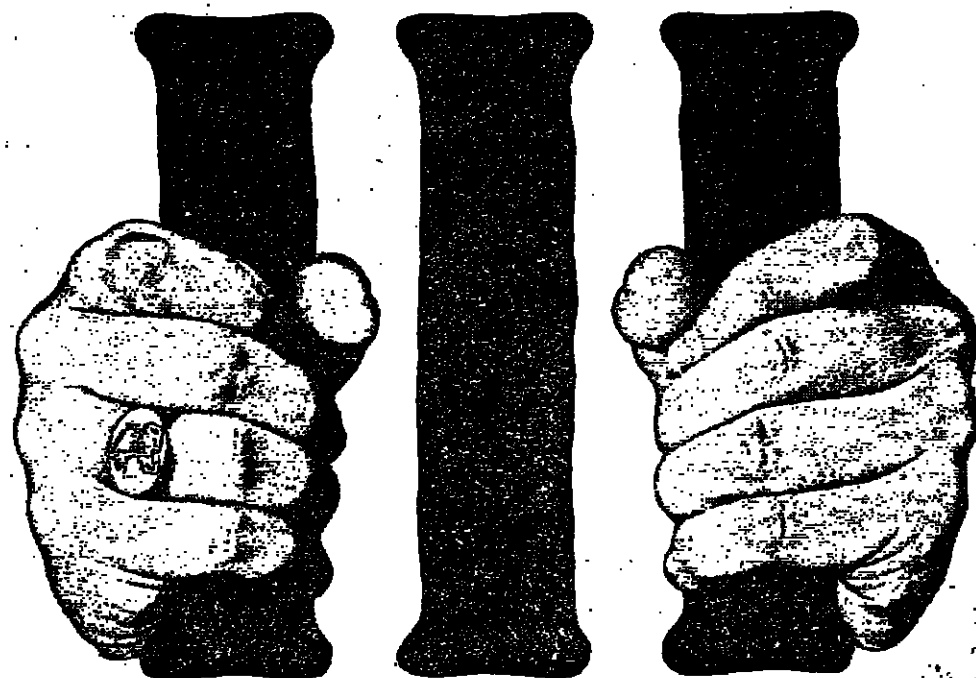
More than 100,000 people packed Managua's biggest square for the closing rally of the Sandinista campaign on Thursday night. Commandante Daniel Ortega, the junta leader, who is almost certain to become Nicaragua's first post-revolutionary President, spoke of "the real danger" of a US invasion if, as expected, President Reagan is reelected on Tuesday.

He said a vote tomorrow, for no matter which party, was a vote for Nicaragua and for peace. To abstain was a vote for intervention.

WASHINGTON: Eight Americans will act as unofficial observers at the elections and try to assess the effects on voting of the US-funded war against the Managua Government (Reuters reports).

Leading article, page 9

THE TRIAL OF RICHARD III



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A CHANNEL FOUR BOOK OF THE PROGRAMME, CONTAINING A FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE TRIAL, PUBLISHED BY ALAN SUTTON, IS AVAILABLE FROM BOOKSELLERS.

Unesco and Britain: Part 1

Biting the hand that feeds

Within two months Britain has to decide whether to follow the United States out of Unesco. In the first two articles, David Walker looks at how, after years of threats and bluster, the troubled United Nations agency may finally be forced into a fundamental reappraisal.

A mysterious fire set to destroy financial documents, a black potestante, espionage, exchange rate speculations, high life at the taxpayers' expense within sight of the Eiffel Tower: the story of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has recently had all the ingredients of a third rate novel.

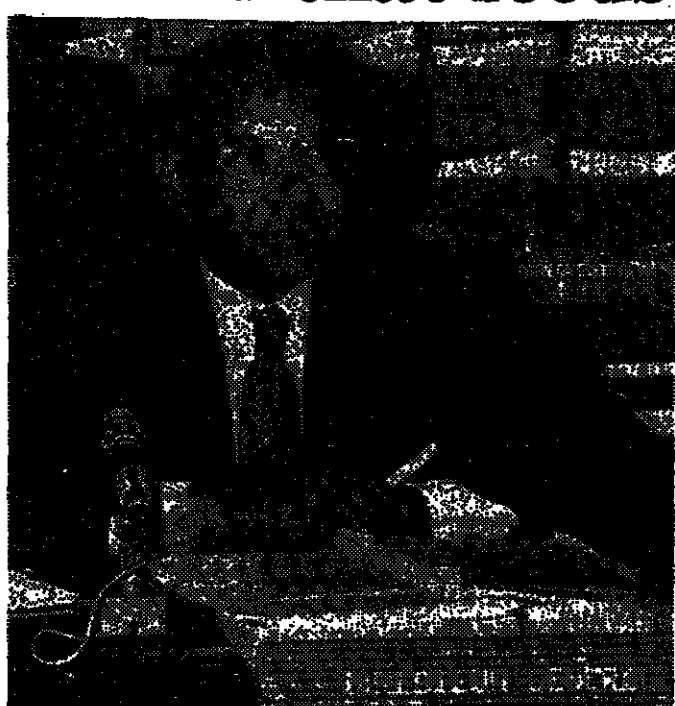
Villain of the piece in most accounts of Unesco is its black Director-General, Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow. He is Senegalese, Muslim, a prize product of French Africa, and a member of what Richard Hoggart called the "enclosed Byzantine system" of Unesco's Parisian bureaucracy.

He has more than fulfilled the aspirations of the Third World countries that 10 years ago were agitating for a non-white head of the UN's specialised agency. There are, however, a number of nations which have joined the nations of diplomacy - Britain and France - among the countries significantly over-represented on Unesco's staff.

There are policies. Where once Unesco was symbolized by literacy programmes and the rescue of Nabian monuments from the Nile, Mr M'Bow's tenure has seen emphasized the construction of "new world orders" consisting, as far as can be gauged, mainly of conference papers and anti-American resolutions.

But Mr M'Bow inherited his extraordinary personal powers from his French predecessor, M René Maheu, and from a constitution put together in a post-war glow by British idealists. Unesco's express objects are to advance the mutual knowledge and understanding of peoples: they defy measurement.

Unesco's problems are organizational: in common with other UN agencies, it sacrifices efficiency to representativeness. Its fiscal arrangements depend on a formula aligning population and gross national product which results in the United States carrying the lion's share, but the voting



Mr M'Bow: Putting emphasis on "new world orders".

strength - one state or statelet per vote - lies with the minimal contributors (see table).

The business efficiency argument against Unesco has now been encapsulated in a 177-page report by the General Accounting Office, a branch of the United States Congress. It strongly criticizes the management of staff and money, confirms suspicions that Unesco budgets are put together by throwing pieces of paper in the air and seeing how they fall, and says Unesco is too heavy with administrators and excessively centralized.

More telling than the efficiency arguments in the American decision to withdraw (the United States withdrew

Unesco 1984-85 budget	
United States	25.00
Soviet Union	10.41
Japan	10.19
West Germany	8.44
France	6.43
UK	4.51
Italy	3.69
Canada	3.04
Other major Western contributors	3.57
72 member states contributing 0.02 to 1.55%	23.72
80 member states contributing the minimum, 0.01%	0.80

contributions in 1975 in protest at Unesco's victimization of Israel) has been the agency's politics.

During the 1950s, Unesco established itself as a relatively harmless talking shop, split like the UN at large, between East and West. Since 1960 it has become a multifaceted development agency as well, though it lacks executive capacity.

Its activities include managing scientific cooperation (relatively cheap and probably not best served by a large bureaucracy) and cultural salvation, for example of Buddhist shrines in Sri Lanka. Difficult to assess is Unesco's work in reducing rising literacy.

In addition to practical activities, Unesco serves as a mill for Parisian Marxist rhetoric. During the 1970s it became just another forum for Soviet diplomacy, the Arab attack on Israel and the self-assertion of the Third World.

The reform of Unesco has been repeatedly mooted since the 1950s. The United States' announcement last December of impending withdrawal is the first sign of a member nation taking direct action to secure change.

Monday: Britain's choice



Barcelona breakthrough: A nurse holds Spain's first test-tube twins, Gemma and Sergio Vila, born in the Catalan capital earlier this week. Each weighed about 7lb at birth.

French rent their new TV channel

From Diana Geddes Paris

Canal Plus, France's first independent television channel and Europe's first pay-TV, starts broadcasting at 8am tomorrow with a star-studded line-up of film, stage and sports personalities.

The advertising, carried on the three public television channels, is banned for Canal Plus, whose main income will come from its subscribers. They are to be charged just over £10 a month for the rental of a personalized decoding machine which will enable them to unscramble the coded programme signals. Nearly 200,000 requests for subscriptions have already been received.

In addition, programmes may be sponsored. Contracts worth 80m francs (£7m) have already been signed with companies such as Coca-Cola, Ortel, Adidas, Thomson and Kodak. The Canal Plus president, M André Rousselet, is well-placed to obtain such contracts being the managing director of Havas, the largest advertising firm in Europe.

Next year, France hopes to launch its first television satellite, which would enable viewers to receive a further four channels. However, many feel that it is not so much more channels as better quality that is needed in French television. A recent poll showed that only 39 per cent of viewers are satisfied with their television programmes, compared with 75 per cent who are satisfied with the radio.

It has yet to be seen whether the "channel's" financial independence from the Government will enable it to provide a more adventurous and critical coverage of the news.

China's old guard told to dismiss

From Mary Lee Peking

Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, has renewed his call to elderly army officers to vacate their posts, the main newspapers reported yesterday. Putting younger officers in charge of the People's Liberation Army is as important as streamlining the army, Mr Deng told a seminar sponsored by the Central Military Commission of which he is chairman.

The Army should also support the development of the economy, Mr Deng urged the Air Force, the Navy and national defence industry to use their capabilities to this end. Some naval bases could be employed for civilian purposes, while the Air Force should spare equipment and personnel to aid civil aviation.

NAVAL CHIEF'S TRIP: China's naval chief, Mr Liu Huang, starts an 11-day tour of British naval armaments factories on Monday at a time when Peking is seeking to increase the capability of its backward Navy (Reuters reports).

British bridge slump

From a Bridge Correspondent, Seattle

The British men's team plummeted to thirteenth position after two unexpected defeats in the World Bridge Olympiad on Thursday.

Thailand, playing above form, won 16-14 and the British played substantially below form to lose 25-4 against Venezuela.

The leaders in Pool A after round 13 are:

- (1) Austria 271 (2) France 260 (3) Poland 253 (4) Denmark

8,000-word denial by Packer

From Tony Daboudia Melbourne

Mr Kerry Packer, the head of Australian Consolidated Press, yesterday strongly denied allegations by the Costigan Royal Commission that he was linked with organized crime and a possible murder.

In a 13-page, 8,000-word document, Mr Packer described the commission's report as a "dishonest and malicious document". He said he had not financed a film tax avoidance scheme, and had not been involved in financing drug transactions or in the alleged murder of a Queensland bank manager, Mr Ian Cootie.

The Queensland police have reopened the investigation into Mr Cootie's death as a result of the report, which said Mr Frank Costigan QC, who headed the commission, was convinced that Mr Cootie was murdered. The commission report, on the activities of the Ship's Painters and Dockers Union, said major inquiries were warranted into matters relating to Mr Packer, including suspected murder.

Mr Packer's statement yesterday also denied that he had ordered the removal of a file to Singapore to frustrate Mr Costigan's inquiry. He said that with this statement, and the one he issued in September after publication of 42 summaries from the commission in the *National Times* magazine, he had answered every allegation against him and proposed to say no more.

Mr Packer's statement included a strong attack on Mr Costigan, saying he had made many errors of fact. It began: "Mr Costigan has concluded his Royal Commission as unjustly as he conducted it... He has disgraced the Institution of Royal Commissions and his own profession as a lawyer."

The Costigan report has indelibly demonstrated that substantial power invested in a person prepared to use it in a warped, arbitrary and unprincipled way can decimate individual rights and totally override basic principles of justice."

The Costigan report has indelibly demonstrated that substantial power invested in a person prepared to use it in a warped, arbitrary and unprincipled way can decimate individual rights and totally override basic principles of justice."

- (1) Indonesia 270 (2) USA 247 (3) Italy 244 (4) Australia 234 (5) Sweden 233 (6) Norway 232 (7) Argentina 231.

Stephen Poliakoff returns to the theatre after a three-year absence when *Breaking the Silence* opens at the Pit on Tuesday. Interview by Bryan Appleyard

The new land for a restless writer

There has been something grimly predictable about the publicity generated by Stephen Poliakoff. "Royal Court play by 19-year-old", it begins, moving on to "Playwright prodigy", to be followed inexorably by "Stephen Poliakoff is irritated with being labelled the Boy Wonder of the theatre."

After 13 years of that where exactly is Poliakoff?

Unfortunately, it is not an angle he is entirely happy to go along with: "Should one think about one's position at any time? Isn't that very destructive? Writing should be a process of getting on with it and doing it."

To Poliakoff his headline and prolific progress - writing plays such as *City Sugar*, television such as *Caught on a Train* and films such as *Runners* - is unamazing.

"It's the energy that matters. I know it takes energy to write a novel. But a novelist can fall into a rhythm. Novels are quite long and plays are quite short and it's a question of capturing one particular thing. That's why playwrights stop. You can't get into a rhythm unless, like Ayckbourn, you have to write for your own company and your own theatre."

As he speaks he seems like some drama student asked to express the word "intensity". He is a stocky, darkly bearded figure whose wirings never quite become fully-fledged fidgets but which nevertheless suggest an overpowering desire to be somewhere else.

His thumbs are alarmingly double-jointed and form curious angles in the air as he speaks. Or rather as he struggles with language - his sentences invariably emerge only after a series of disconcerting false starts. Equally disconcertingly they are frequently followed closely by comprehensive disclaimers.

He will throw in "humanist" as a reasonable description of his ethic and then deny it. He admits to his motives for doing this and then disclaims them.

"I'm trying to forestall people using those terms by using them myself. Rather a silly play really." Poliakoff is not one to be pinned down.

But at the centre of all his work lies the conviction that people should not be categorized, that we should not be crushed into thinking in straight lines. And so to *Breaking the Silence*, his second play to be produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company, which opens at the Barbican on Tuesday.

It is about the precarious process of the release of human creativity and energy and it is based on the experiences in immediately post-revolutionary Russia of Poliakoff's paternal grandfather and his family. But it is not - much waving of thumbs and writhing - repeat NOT a family memoir.

"The biographical events are a small part of the urge to write the play. I don't want the audience wondering what's true and what isn't. It's just that when you take something that's quite close to you you have to reboil it to make it into a universal fiction."

Poliakoff's grandfather was an extravagant nineteenth-century figure who persisted in his haughty-bourgeois ways after the revolution. And, incredibly, he was indulged, given a sinecure and told to get on with it. The reason was that the authorities knew he was genuinely close to coming up with an invention of worldwide significance.

"I've always wanted to write this story because it fascinated me. That figure and all those contradictions - what happened to the women? Also it seemed in a funny way rather pertinent - the way the energy of people is released. Then suddenly I saw a way of doing it by setting it in the rather magnificent railway carriage he was given to do his job."

"I didn't want to write a sprawling epic. I wanted to keep people very much on the same level as events. The sense of things happening just outside the window, close enough for

THE ARTS



Poliakoff: Defying categorization, never pinned down

you to smell but never to be sure quite what's happening."

Poliakoff's own - rather reluctantly described - analysis of his oeuvre involves two strands: his "urban canyon" plays set in the postwar desolation of Britain's cities and his "European" plays. *Breaking the Silence* goes back to the Russian roots of the latter category and the story was told to him when a teenager by his grandmother.

The use of that brief, creative era in Russia before Stalinism intervened is also significant for Poliakoff's work because of its contrast with the usual cultural background of his drama. In *Breaking the Silence* the environment is vibrant, alive and dangerous, but at least it offers the opportunity for human contradictions and ambiguities to be embraced and stimulated.

In his "urban canyon" plays his characters find themselves in a wasteland in which all their energies are absorbed by the simple effort of remaining human.

"The people in the urban plays are not zombies, they are not turning into urban vega-

tables. They fight back, they have an imaginative life that makes them human. That is, if anything, an over-optimistic view. Certainly I've never thought of myself as a pessimistic writer. It is a pessimistic view of the culture - obviously in Thatcher's England..."

But in his drama the politics emerge more obliquely than in the work of his equally committed colleagues.

His first interest is character so he works specifically against the style of Brechtian alienation, aiming rather for total involvement: "My plays are designed to work on people's imaginations."

But what, I wonder, is all the energy for? What do his plays do?

"Do?" he looks startled. "Do? People used to feel that all playwrights under 40 had to justify their existence, set themselves up as crusaders for something. What do they do? I don't know. You set out to involve, entertain, to move people, I suppose, make them look at the world differently. If you achieve just one tiny bit of that..."

Arena, as the length of the film indicated, had retained the memory of the joy of this cultural - phenomenon and wished to celebrate its return.

It was an excellent piece of film which would probably have retained more of its audience for longer had there been less veneration in the cutting room. The Kentucky obsession with the old guitar was established over and over again and old-timers allowed to go on more than a bit.

Phil and Don are now showing the signs of middle years but the crowds come along, nose to nose, to see them sing. Anthony Wall did a good, moody job of directing and there was some excellent cross-cutting between the Everlys, bean-poles then and husky now. Kentucky came over strongly.

Dennis Hackett

Television

Everlys wake up again

In Kentucky they pass round the guitar as we might hand round the tea and grandad, grandma and all pick away and divert the assembled company from troubles at the pit and all the ills that the sometimes mean life an industrial area can be heir to.

Their music is an amalgam of negro blues, country music and rock, formed into a twangy, bouncy rhythm by the assiduous practice of generations.

Out of this Appalachian culture in the 1950s came the Everly Brothers, Don and Phil. Father and mother, of course, played too, and the whole family was on the road often. But it was Don and Phil who made it big.

The Everly Brothers, Songs of Innocence and Experience marked Arena's return to BBC2 last night, a 95-minute film tracing the brothers' origins, their rise to fame, the big bust-up in 1973, and the return to amity and singing togetherness 10 years later.

Not everyone would agree with the woman who compared one of them to a "Stradivarius when he was on the high notes", but even those who are content

to be remote from the world of rock cannot have been having their ears invaded at some time or other by the exhortative "Wake Up Little Suzie", the love-struck "All I Have to do is Dream", or the adolescent lament, "Bye-Bye, Love".

Arena, as the length of the film indicated, had retained the memory of the joy of this cultural - phenomenon and wished to celebrate its return.

It was an excellent piece of film which would probably have retained more of its audience for longer had there been less veneration in the cutting room. The Kentucky obsession with the old guitar was established over and over again and old-timers allowed to go on more than a bit.

Phil and Don are now showing the signs of middle years but the crowds come along, nose to nose, to see them sing. Anthony Wall did a good, moody job of directing and there was some excellent cross-cutting between the Everlys, bean-poles then and husky now. Kentucky came over strongly.

Dennis Hackett

Theatre

Two Planks and a Passion

Greenwich

The merry middle ages have not had much theatrical attention since the heyday of Christopher Fry, and on the face of it, Anthony Minghella's account (first seen at Exeter last year) of a royal party gate-crashing the York Mystery cycle in 1392 is just the kind of airy fiction that evaporated with *The Lady's Not for Burning*.

As in Fry, a smelly epoch makes a deodorized come-back; there is a similar reliance on charming anachronism, and the stealthy return of a Christian message under a playfully inconsequential surface. There, however, the resemblance comes to an end, as *Two Planks and a Passion* turns out to be a robustly well-plotted piece whose graceful style is the least of its points of interest.

Its comic mainspring is the rivalry between the Mayor of York and the master of the Painters' Guild which comes to a head over their preparations for the Corpus Christi play. The situation is first presented at ground level, from the viewpoint of the labourers and apprentices whose plans to go ahead with their traditional show are bedevilled by a chaplain who wants to rewrite it

and the Master who begrudges spending a penny on the props. Taking advantage of Richard II's mysterious visit to York at the time of the Mystery festival, Mr Minghella exploits his presence to whip the rivalry between the two city grandees up to a climax.

So far as their story is concerned, the result is a fourteenth-century equivalent of E F Benson's "Lucia" novels, with each side trying to outdo the other in status gestures, as the Guild Master (Roger Sloman) lashes out on acres of purple silk and gold paint, while the Mayor grovelingly entertains the royal pair in fractured French.

The royals - mischievously played by Michael Maloney and Kathryn Harrison - join in the game in a style that combines childish teasing with regal calculations: beginning in sheer comedy that is gradually darkened by the Queen's approaching death. Finally she witnesses the labourers' rustic "Crucifixion" while their masters' empty gilded spectacle plays to a deserted street. Equipped with some fine fading frescoes by Deirdre Clancy, Danny Boyle's production walks its stylistic tightrope with great poise, and offers some splendid upstaging tactics from Fred Pearson and Gillian Barge.

Irving Wardle

Radio

Tale of two talk shows

Anything would be better than Lucca ("a hiatus, blank, missing part": OED) with which on two distant recent Thursday mornings Radio 4 presented a great gap filled with empty chat. Certainly Talking Sides (producers, Juliet May and Elaine Bedell) has been by and large a good deal better; it is a live studio discussion with participating audience, chaired - if that is quite the right expression - by Paul Sieghart and it has to a great extent belied the adversarial implications of its title.

Beginning with a lively hour on the press, it moved on to a thoughtful debate about the police Bill, but then last Thursday went down market and downhill with a discussion about class which, like most of its kind, was rapidly founding in confusion, assertion and improbability by half-way through when I lost interest in it.

Not one of those contributing appeared to have the slightest appreciation of the complex and devious nature of the subject and not even Mr Sieghart with all his professional skills of advocacy could make it seem otherwise. And Mr Sieghart is extremely good at managing this sort of thing: relaxed, courteous and encouraging, quick-thinking, gently persistent.

But to say that he chairs the proceedings is not correct: he preambulates them, microphone in hand, as I discovered when I turned on my television. For *Talking Sides* is only make-believe radio; properly speaking, it is a television studio discussion on which we happen to be eavesdropping, and they call the technique "Radio-vision".

I heard the first one without realizing this and the second without doing anything about it, but was struck by what seemed to be a rather productive tension in the interchanges. Having now seen the goings-on I suspect that people are very probably responding with that extra pound of energy and showmanship to the knowledge that a great many other people are watching them.

So television lends its built-in sense of occasion to radio which always has a job creating one. And it works. I only hope that questions such as class don't come up too often.

But of course they do, questions yet more impossible, such as "Did Christ really rise from the dead?" or even "Does God exist?" The first of these occupied most of an edition of Poles Apart (Radio 4, Sundays, producers Lyn Webster and Liz Carney), in which the new Bishop of Durham faced some of his critics, and at least it is possible to report that this half hour, unlike a good many of its predecessors, was conducted with the minimum of heat and hostile confrontation.

Yet underlying the measured talk, it was difficult not to detect that all too familiar assumption of Christian primacy, uniqueness and necessity. All mankind, it says, is or ought to be the beneficiary of a resurrection which is the sole property of Christians and without which the whole religious enterprise is vain.

What then of the greater part of mankind who do not see the matter in those terms at all?

The second doubtful question is the subject matter of the Case Against God (Radio 4, Sundays and Thursdays; producer, Chris Rees), in which Gerald Priestland is holding an eight-part inquiry into "the existence and character of God". To judge by programme one, we are going to be glad of the Jewish contributors before the end.

Rabbi Alan Levine of Jerusalem recited a Jewish version of the Lord's Prayer, which goes like this: "The word asks that ancient question, and what is it? Dai-dai-dai-dai... And the answer is, dai-dai-dai-dai..."

"So", responded Mr Priestland, "it's all a load of rubbish?" - pitching his voice in a way which left open the suspicion that he thought the answer to be yes.

"I didn't say that", Levine answered him. "The question is an anguished question. Why has it become a rubbish question? Because the person who asks the question knows there is no answer..."

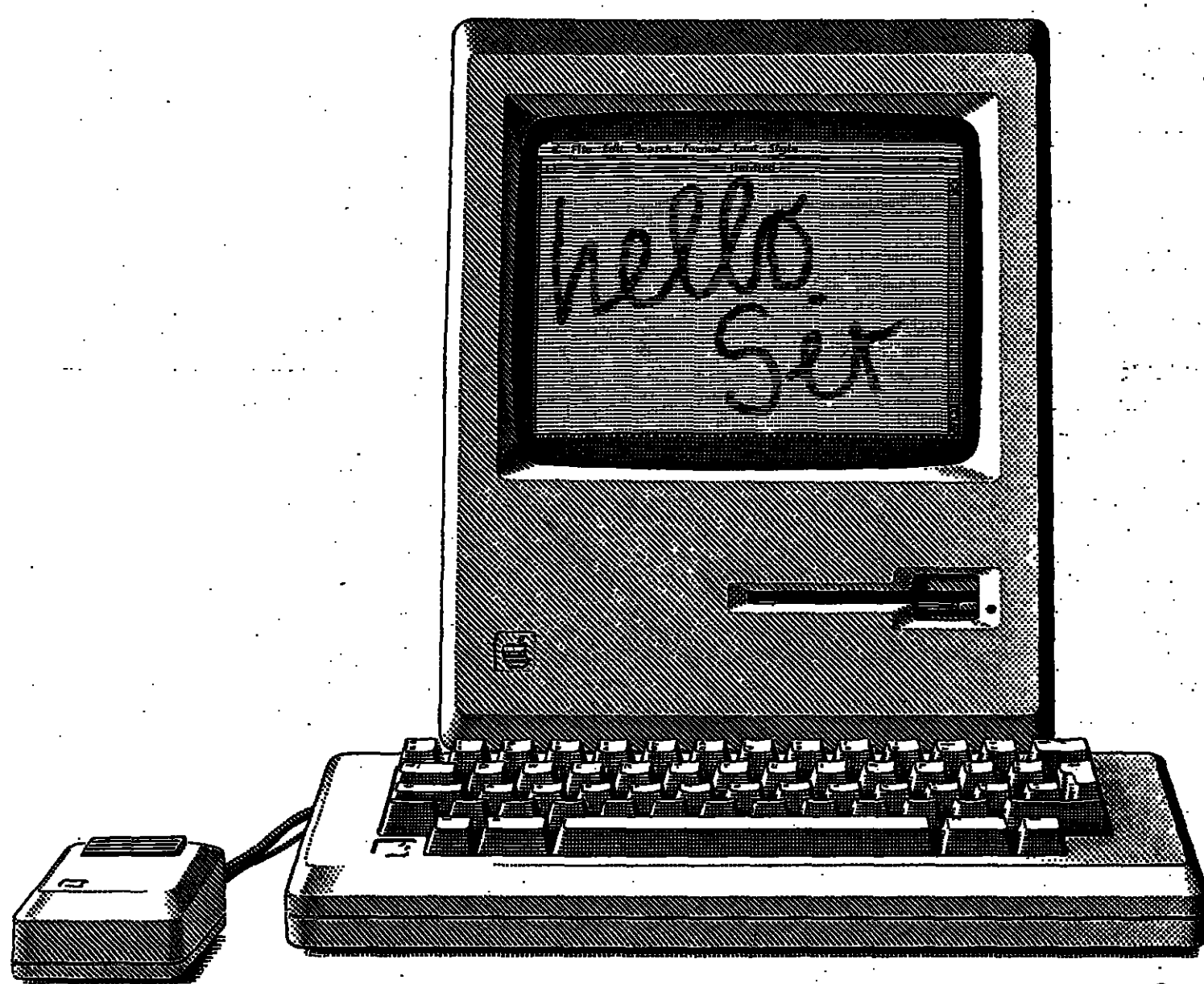
In my understanding, this is true. We know, in some sense, that such questions cannot be put in the terms available for asking questions. Yet we go on asking them and because we ask rubbish questions, we get rubbish answers or no answers at all.

I suspect that Rabbi Levine may have rendered it unnecessary to hear the remaining seven parts of *The Case Against God*.

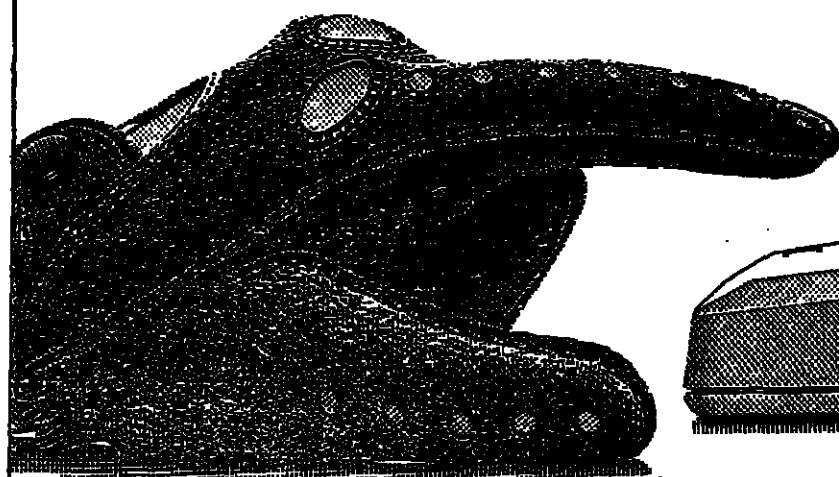
With the time thus unoccupied, you might do better to turn to Derek Robinson, who in *Mighty Myths* (Radio 4, Wednesdays; producer, Carol Stone) is presently undermining a few cherished beliefs, such as that Sweden holds the record for successful suicide or that the Spanish Armada hopelessly outnumbered the gallant little English. Neither is true. Nor, it seems, could the events of the first Christmas be quite as they have come down to us.

David Wade

The only way to drive the MacintoshTM home...



...is to drive it home.



Test drive a Macintosh, the business computer from Apple.

It would take hours to tell you all about Macintosh. And it all sounds a little too good to be believed anyway.

We won't waste your time. We'd rather you simply take one away for a while, for free,* and find out for yourself.

That's just to show you how much we believe in it.

So take a few minutes Monday morning to go go down to your local Apple dealer and grab your

Macintosh before someone else does. Remember, you're not the only one who's interested in finding out about Macintosh.

And you're not the only one reading this advertisement.

We'll just see you as soon as you return to give back the Macintosh.... Or will we?

Call Freefone Apple for your nearest dealer.

For your nearest Apple dealer, dial 100 and ask for Freefone Apple or post this coupon today.

Please send me details on the 'Test Drive' offer and the address of my nearest Apple dealer. Send to: Apple Computer (UK) Limited, Advance House, Brent Crescent, London NW10 7XR.

Name _____

Position _____

Company _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ Telephone Number _____



Apple Computer

*The 'Test Drive' offer is open to anyone who can meet our dealers' conditions until December 31st 1984. Apple and the Apple logo are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. Macintosh is a trademark licensed to Apple Computer, Inc.

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Rankov and Rancour

Controversy takes over once again when the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race Committee meets on Thursday to discuss the vexed question of boat race eligibility. They will eat a steak lunch with the future of the boat race at stake. The meeting is a knock-on from the row over Boris Rankov, who won his sixth rowing blue for Oxford in 1983 when part-student and part-professional. The universities had adopted totally opposed positions on the issue. Cambridge says that increasing postgraduate participation wrecks an undergraduate's chance of winning a blue, which is a bad thing. Oxford says that, what with the growing number of women undergraduates, increasing postgraduate participation is the only way to keep rowing standards high, which is a good thing. Comparative standards have either drastically in other sports, but not yet in rowing.

The committee will debate a compromise agreement which has been in force since October last year and which, though it is intended to prevent another Rankov, still gives the energetic a theoretical opportunity to win eight blues. As the agreement stands, it satisfies neither party. Meanwhile, hostilities continue on the water this weekend, when both universities contest the Fours Head of the River race.

● Olympic quadruple gold medalist Carl Lewis has signed on for dancing lessons at drama school. No public appearances are planned; he says he is just getting fit for the indoor athletic season.

Filly buster

The choosing of any horse's name has to be undertaken with care; naming a splendid daughter of Alydar has given rise to inordinate humming and hawing. But after a series of scintillating gallops, the decision was finally made to saddle the filly with the fine-tempering name of Alydar's Best. Since assuming the name, she has appeared twice on the race course, and has two victories to show for it. Trainer David O'Brien, who won this year's Derby with Secretariat, is aiming her at the 1985 Derby. She will have to be genuinely superlative to do that - the last filly to win the Derby was Fiddlers in 1916. Only five other fillies have done it since the race was first run in 1780. Alydar's Best is currently 32-1.

Thigh of relief

Officials with the British women's football team were surprised at the interest generated in Jordan by their recent tour, since an earlier men's tour had revealed no lurking Jordanian passion for the game. But at an international match they not only attracted a capacity crowd, but riot police were needed to keep back the crowds when the girls took off their tracksuits, bottoms to play in their usual short shorts. The Jordanian team play with tracksuit bottoms first in place. The British team had to be locked up in the changing room until the crowd had dispersed, and required a 24-hour police guard throughout the tour.

Sack and ashes

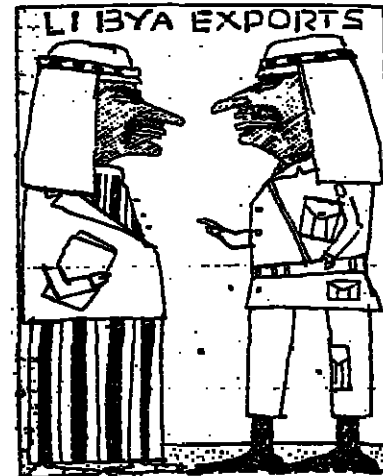
Quote of the week from C. L. R. James, the Marxist Trinidadian cricket writer and author of the acknowledged cricket classic *Beyond a Boundary*: "I have never seen such a miserable body of people claiming to represent England as the present team. My advice would be to sack the lot, selection committee and all, and then summon Gower, and say: 'Build a team, you have at least two years'."

● The soon to be published *Who's Who of Cricketers* contains the career figures of every man ever to have played first-class cricket in England - all 12,000 of them. Of these, 11 didn't bat or bowl once.

John and Don

J.M. "Johnny" Taylor is not a name to send cricket historians diving into their copy of *Wisden* but, I discover, he was the man the young Donald Bradman took for his model. "Somehow or other," Bradman writes, "his style of batting, his superb outfielding, and innate modesty made a great impression on me." Taylor's most memorable achievement was match-saving 108 for Australia in a last-wicket stand of 127 - still a record in England-Australia tests and still the Australian record against all opposition. I am indebted for this nugget of knowledge to the new edition of David Firth's *England versus Australia: a pictorial history of Test Matches since 1877*.

BARRY FANTONI



'Get it right: the food's for the miners, the guns for the IRA' (Barry Fantoni's new book of Times Diary cartoons is published this week by Anthony Blond, price £4.95).

With a request for a sharply higher licence fee imminent, Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, tells David Hewson why viewers would suffer if it bowed to demands to go commercial

Breaks we don't want



Q: One would have expected that someone with your background - a successful entrepreneur, close to Tory opinion with a brother (Lord Young) in the Cabinet - to have been the first to support the introduction of advertising and commercial competition into television.

A: I think you are right. If I had not been connected to the BBC I think, for the wrong reasons, I would have been attracted to the idea of advertising. The great fallacy of people who rush into print and say the BBC should take advertising is that they don't look into the matter in depth and see what actually happens if you start going down that slippery slope.

The advertising agency, D'Arcy-MacManus & Masius, believes that if the BBC took a small amount of advertising, 15 seconds an hour initially, the licence fee could be pegged at £46 for several years. Isn't this reasonable?

It is a very attractive argument. It would be better if it was founded on fact. The actual amount required, supporting their argument, would be at least 1 minute 20 seconds. That's a straightforward financial argument. They've got the wrong figures.

But that does not go to the root of my objection to advertising. Talk to ABC, CBS and NBC in America and ask how they work out their schedules. The person with the loudest voice, the person who takes the final decision, is the president of the sales department. It is not the talent side of television that decides.

ITV has a monopoly, thank heavens, of raising money from advertising. So when it comes to prime time it isn't competitive in the sense of what is being shown. There are the only channels showing advertising, so the sales department, quite rightly, has absolutely no say in the scheduling of what the public sees. If we were competitive I dread to think what would happen. Ultimately the sales department would be driving the schedules.

Take TV-am. It won its franchise with some brilliant individuals who wanted to produce a credible news and current affairs early morning show. But in the first week or two the viewing figures did not live up to expectations and the advertisers bailed out. It was Britain's first example of an advertising-led television programme because it gradually went further and further down market until it ended up with Roland Rat, with advertising revenue coming in at the lowest common denominator and the IBA powerless to keep to its high-minded principles.

Is *Breakfast Time* any more.

Substantially. I think you will find that if you compare, ours is basically news-led. I'm not going to score the cheap point of the Brighton bombing because that's a one-day situation.

If we reach the situation where all we're concerned about is advertising revenue then you end up going away from public service broadcasting. So I would like to see how the BBC could put on a promenade concert on BBC1 on Saturday night at prime time if it needs to sell advertising.

But the climate of public and political opinion is very firmly against large, state-funded enterprises shored up by monopoly. Is it realistic to believe that the BBC can escape this shift?

Totally unrealistic. Of course the BBC has got to think the world is

changing. We're thinking all the time. How I believe the licence fee should be improved from the public point of view is that we should hope that the Government would agree to broadening the base. The first thing I would like to see is the introduction of a car radio tax. There are approximately 17 million vehicles in the country today, and of these I believe more than 10 million have radio installed. If the Government were to agree to a car radio licence fee of £10 a year that would produce £100m. It would be a very easy tax to collect. Where the road fund £20 you would simply make it £100. You would simply have a different colour coding - (on the licence), red or green, or have an R on it, and when the police do their anti-aerial campaign if the car has an aerial it has one colour tag, if it doesn't, it has another.

It would affect a market which is not actually underprivileged. I

believe 70 per cent of cars are registered in the names of companies, so it doesn't affect the individual. The 30 per cent registered in the names of individuals and large are the middle class and the better off.

In time I would like to see a television licence, not a household licence. I happen to have four sets in my home. I don't actually believe I should pay the same amount as the deprived one-parent family living in one room with one set. That would start to iron out the differences in society. I'm not saying it's easy, but it would be more equitable.

What would you say to people who never watch the BBC or listen to it on their car radios? Statistics show that there are far fewer of these people than the popular press would lead you to believe. From the independent reviews I think I am right in saying that every week over 90 per cent of

the population at some time look at a BBC programme and over 90 per cent look at an ITV programme. The mythical group of people who never watch BBC is fairly small. When it comes to radio, there are not that many people around the country who don't listen.

How would you define public service broadcasting? I believe it has got to cover the totality of interest, apart from the charter responsibilities to inform, to educate, and to entertain. It is about quality programmes for minority interests and popular programmes that are quality.

Do not think for a moment that I am saying that the ITV companies aren't doing a very good job. But I say they do it because we are here. The *South Bank Show* is the result of the BBC spending £150m on arts programmes, and £7m on musicians. If you're going to tell me as chairman of the BBC that I have to raise £100m from advertising then I can't have *River Journeys*. I've got to have *Blankety Blank* and you're going to end up with wall-to-wall saleable programmes.

How can the public be satisfied with the result of the independent efficiency audit on the BBC ordered by the Home Secretary when you were allowed to choose the firm which is carrying out the report? We were given the choice of three firms. But the independence and integrity of those firms is such that the report they produce will be totally independent and I do not expect that report to be a whitewash on behalf of the BBC. In fact I am hopeful that it is going to produce things that will enable us to make alterations. I wouldn't suggest that we're perfect. I think we're bloody good. But there is fine tuning. How much of the problem is overmanaging?

I think that within the industry there are certain manning practices which have developed that are less than desirable. But what I do know for a fact is that any manning difficulties that there are within the BBC are nothing as compared to the manning difficulties in commercial television.

There was a time in the BBC when we had four people per transmitter. Today we have half a person, one man covers two transmitters. That is because the technology is so advanced that we have been able to make redundancies, and they have all been made. I'm talking about hundreds of people.

Do you think the BBC will ever escape its battle with the press every time the licence fee question arises? I don't think it will ever alter, because the public's expectation of the BBC is greater than its expectation of other organizations. You own the BBC, and as the owner of the BBC you are entitled to expect excellence. We've got to live up to that expectation, so I don't mind that criticism at all.

Your fears about the effects of advertising on the BBC can be justified only if the appropriate regulatory bodies allow the Corporation and the commercial network to follow a double standard. Surely what we need is not less competition in broadcasting, but more competition backed by tighter regulation? The regulatory authority cannot have teeth when the financial imperative is stronger. If it is financial survival or regulation, history has shown that regulations weaken.

Joseph Connolly reveals profits and perils on the bookshelf



Up: Fleming, Wodehouse, Heaney

Staying put: Archer, Plath, Solzhenitsyn

Who's who of the best-collectors

bad writers are collected in any field at all. It is concurrently true, though, that there are quite a few good-to-fine writers (Stanley Middleton, Bryan Forbes) who are not collected and never have been; but this situation is never irreversible. The biggest rises in interest and value during the last seven years have occurred with the lighter, more entertaining authors (such as ephemeris in no way denigrating their very high quality) although there is a highly discernible trend towards younger, heavier, more literary fiction inspired in part by the razzamattaz surrounding the Booker Prize.

For now, though, the most collected authors are P. G. Wodehouse, Agatha Christie, Ian Fleming, Dick Francis, Roald Dahl, John Le Carré and Raymond Chandler speaking up for the "entertainers", while the first division of the heavy books includes William Golding, John Fowles, Graham Greene, Seamus Heaney, James Joyce, Philip Larkin, Evelyn Waugh, Iris Murdoch, Anthony Powell, George Orwell, J. R. Tolkien and Virginia Woolf.

First, some good news for cynics: there is a definite and strong correlation between literary quality and collected authors: very, very few

fallen by the wayside, all passion spent. Tolkien is collected, Stephen Donaldson and Richard Adams are not (except for *Waterhouse Down*, which is Harold Pinter and Tom Stoppard are quite rightly collected, but so too should be Keith Waterhouse (in his playwriting capacity, with Willis Hall), Alan Ayckbourn, John Mortimer, David Mercer and Dennis Potter, and they are not.

One begins to see how a picture of overall quality and "importance" emerges. Huge sales and cults by no means guarantee collectability - no one will ever require a first edition of *The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady*.

The last seven years have not seen only meteoric rises. Many authors are worth less in real terms than they were in 1977. The deaths of authors such as Priestley, Koestler and Benjamin have not resulted in a major rise in value, even the murder of John Lennon failed to propel his two little books into stardom - they are still worth what they always were, £15-£20. The list of authors who have more or less stayed put is nearly as long as that of the high flyers: Behan, Capote, Day-Lewis, Donleavy, Richard Hughes, John Osborne, Sylvia Plath (except for the few exceptional rarities), Philip Roth, Bertrand Russell, John Updike, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Gore Vidal, Elizabeth Taylor.

Finally I should like to state the value of Ian Fleming's *Casino Royale*. Everyone is sick to death of reading the value of *Casino Royale*, which is touted variously and wildly as hovering somewhere between the Koh-i-Noor diamond and a substantial proportion of the National Debt. It is worth £700 or £800 in the dust-wrappers, £300 or £400 without.

Joseph Connolly's *Modern First Editions, revised and updated*, will be published by Orbis on November 19 (£15).

First editions: How prices have moved			
	1977	1984	
Richard Adams	up to £50	up to £200	
W. H. Auden	up to £200	up to £1,000	
Roald Dahl	up to £10	up to £150	
Agatha Christie	up to £50	up to £1,000	
William Golding	up to £35	up to £750	
Ted Hughes	up to £25	up to £125	
P. G. Wodehouse	up to £30	up to £250	
Len Deighton	up to £1	up to £1	
Seamus Heaney	up to £5	up to £20	

Woodrow Wyatt

What the Colonel wants of Scargill

On Monday Mr Wedgwood Benn complained that it was "odiously hypocritical" to attack Mr Scargill for dealing with Colonel Gaddafi. The National Coal Board through its subsidiary Compower, under contract to the Libyan government, has been teaching Libyans English and computer skills. If it is all right, Benn argues, for the coal board to have financial relations with Colonel Gaddafi, why is it not all right for Scargill?

Mr Benn could have added that we have considerable trade with Libya, sending that country far more exports than we receive in return. We trade with South Africa, Russia, Iran, Kuwait and all manner of unsavoury dictatorships. Why, therefore, should Scargill be condemned by Mr Kinnock, who described the country as vile and said that any Libyan money given to the miners was "an insult"?

Letters in *The Times* indicate sympathy with this viewpoint. Examples are given of British Telecom and British Steel going to Libya to sell their services. It is not merely the coal board which is accessible to training. Libyans almost any organization in Britain is willing to take money from Libya whether for goods or technical help. So long as the Government allows this, and is pleased with the contribution it makes to our balance of payments, why should Libya be out of bounds to Mr Scargill?

The reason is this. Colonel Gaddafi pays for goods and services. What were the services that Gaddafi thought he was buying from some leaders of the NUM, who had not consulted the rest of their executive on their approach to him? They could not have been offering to train coal miners, or to supply expertise on how to run trade unions and organize strikes.

There are no trade unions in Libya in any sense which would be recognized by the TUC. There were some before King Idris was deposed by Gaddafi. He dissolved them. Now there are People's Committees created by the Colonel which owe total allegiance to the government. They do not negotiate working conditions or pay. They are political cadres keeping the people in line and acting as informers.

Strikes are forbidden. Any strike is regarded as a strike against the people and is punishable by death. There have been no pay rises for three years. Mr Scargill is naive, as is sometimes suggested. He knows all this very well. He knows that any money ostensibly offered by non-existent Libyan trade unions which have no money is money from the Libyan government.

The *Daily Mirror* last Tuesday published the transcript of the conversation which Colonel Gaddafi had with Roger Windsor, the NUM chief executive. The paper got it from the Libyan Television and News agency, Mr Windsor began: "Thank you for receiving me at such short notice, and for allowing me to make representations to you on behalf of the British National Union of Mineworkers." So the initiative came from the NUM side, not from Colonel Gaddafi. Mr Windsor then proceeded with a lurid account of repression against striking miners.

The number of casualties so far reached is five dead in addition to 30,000 injured and 8,000 imprisoned in British jails. This repression, it seems, included "our president, Arthur Scargill, who was beaten by the British police". Colonel Gaddafi was further informed that "miners' families are a target of hunger and hardship, reaching the extent of their inability to feed their children and bury their dead". At the end of this moving speech Mr Windsor made the appeal

which was the purpose of the visit: "We need all the money that you can send us through the Libyan trade unions."

Colonel Gaddafi replied with warmth and sympathy and assured the NUM of "Libya's solidarity in their struggle to gain their legitimate rights". Finally I can confirm that the Libyan trade unions will contribute substantial cash to enable you to win your struggle against Mrs Thatcher, the American lackey. We shall make sure the money is sent to you into a foreign bank account.



Gaddafi: he too wants to see Mrs Thatcher overthrown

Colonel Gaddafi is not promising the money because he is a compassionate man: his name does not appear high on the list as a contributor to saving starving children in Africa. The Colonel was promising the money for the same reason he gives it to the IRA: he aims at maximum disruption in countries hostile to his brand of dictatorial socialism.

That is the service he wants from Mr Scargill. If Gaddafi could help prolong the strike he would be delighted at any damage it caused Britain and her government. We must assume that the Colonel is not interested in the handsome offers made by the NCB to the executive of the NUM.

The Colonel sees in Scargill a man of similar outlook. Both believe that as a means of getting your way violence is preferable to the ballot box. On June 27, speaking at a Communist Party rally called Marx with Sparks, Scargill said: "I don't accept we are landed for the next four years with this government", and called for "working people to take extra-parliamentary action to defeat the Tories". Both leaders believe in a very rough kind of socialism, so long as they are running it. Mr Scargill is the man who said of Poland: "I am opposed to Solidarity because I believe it is an anti-socialist organization, whose desire is to overthrow the socialist state."

Mr Scargill is an avowed Marxist who has several times said that the object of his is to overthrow the government. Gaddafi, also, would like to see Mrs Thatcher overthrown. The two are natural allies, although I acquit Mr Scargill of any desire to engage in the type of terrorist murders which are Gaddafi's specialty.

Mr Scargill was clearly surprised that people did not realize his affinity with Gaddafi, that they have not yet understood his politics. His first reaction on the Libyan disclosure was, "Our union welcomes any financial contribution from trade unions anywhere to support our campaign."

Aid to striking miners has come from Russia and Iran. Curious countries but these countries, so far as we can judge, are not helping the IRA or murdering policemen in St James's Square.

Colin Webb

Guys and ghouls come out to prey

The ring at the doorbell on Wednesday night was unexpected. Too early for Christmas carols, our neighbour had already borrowed the radiator key, we had had the day's evangelical visit, the man had already called offering primula plants, and Friends of the Earth were due for their bundles of newspapers next Wednesday. Who could it be?

"Hello. Trick or treat," said the little girl. "Hello," we said. "No thank you", and tried to close the door.

"Wait a minute please, we thought you wouldn't mind really."

In the half light of the porch they looked a bit strange and gaudy. Were they ill, poor and dishevelled? Were they human guys seeking early pennies? We gave them a small coin for the usual reason - to get rid of them. They went giggling away.

All was made clear when Victoria came home the next morning after spending the night with a friend. "We went to play trick or treat," she said happily. "I got 50p."

It transpired that Victoria and her friend had got into some scruffy clothes and gone round to see another friend round the corner. That friend's parents had paid up - the trick. What would the trick have been?

"Well, we don't know really. We would have said, done or sung something nasty I suppose."

Victoria, except when goaded beyond endurance by her brothers, never does any of those things. Except, apparently, on this particular night. She was, she thought, offering someone the chance to bribe her not to put a curse on them, or, failing some buying-off, to effect a nasty curse, whatever it might be. That seems to be the way they do things in America on Halloween.

Come to think of it, we had hardly seen any guy at all on the pavements outside the stations and by the bus stops. Pathetic little bundles of rags soliciting a financial celebration of the death of Guy Fawkes seem to have been given way in some parts to little children dressed frightfully, or to frighten, or both. Everyone is doing it, said Victoria.

Maybe, but the American tradition, I am told, is to do it for sweets or biscuits. One of her goading brothers, Edward, is too old for children's games, and sneered at the venture.

"You could at least have done it to collect money for Ethiopia." True, but they don't really want boiled sweets and chocolate drops in Addis Ababa. Mr Maxwell would not approve of that.

In the end, Victoria's tricky haul will go to charity and not even on fireworks to celebrate Mr Fawkes's immolation. We doubt whether all the money demanded with menaces will go that way: a colleague was confronted as he parked his car outside his north London home by three big and burly masked youths on the same night. He assumed his tyres would be let down so he paid the extortionists 10p. He could hardly have given them a shortcake biscuit. And he expects they'll be round for Christmas, threatening to sing him a carol.

When I were very young we used to beg chewing gum from victorious American servicemen ("Get any gum, chum?") but were never allowed to seek pennies for a guy and could sing carols only with the church choir when it did its rounds. Any attempt to trick or treat would have been brought to the attention of our parents, and we would have suffered a nasty curse, and no treats.

مكتبة الأمل



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CBI: HEALING THE RIFT

However much the CBI and its members may have celebrated Mrs Thatcher's election in 1979, it came too soon for the annual conference to have bedded down. Hit by the full force of the Government's adjustment programmes at the very moment when the world economy was descending into slump, British industry could not speak with a single voice. Erratic CBI leadership was unable to bridge the gap and a rift opened up with government that, despite an outbreak of election solidarity, was still embarrassingly apparent at last year's conference in Glasgow.

Events have helped to heal that rift. On the CBI's side, its member firms have had to make all those harsh adjustments. They are now recognising and reaping the benefits in an easier economic climate of prolonged recovery, although many firms in the West Midlands and elsewhere are still in desperate straits and the construction industry is starved of public sector orders. On the Government side Mr Nigel Lawson has, despite the rhetoric, subtly shifted the Government's priorities in favour of sustaining recovery through the lowest practical interest rates, if necessary at the expense of the pound (music to some CBI ears) and at the expense of improving on the pace of its targeted cuts in inflation. The public sector has so far, unusually, shown private industry the way in curbing the growth of money wages. And the Government has finally met industry's united demand for an end to the National Insurance Surcharge.

The rapprochement is therefore genuine. It will never become a true meeting of minds. The CBI's latest calls to the Chancellor, while containing much good advice, still betray the self-delusion of a disparate committee; Mrs Thatcher will never be able to think of her largely staunch industrial ally as "one of us".

It is therefore sad that the Prime Minister's question-and-answer session with delegates, billed for tomorrow as the highlight of the CBI conference, has had to be cancelled in favour of grimmer business in New Delhi. It was supposed to mark a symbolic healing of the rift, despite some anticipated tart questioning about unemployment and public sector capital spending.

Perhaps Mrs Thatcher's absence will accidentally allow the CBI to focus more closely on what should now be the function of this conference: to develop its own role within its membership in projecting the half-achieved reform of British industry into a full-scale resurgence based on improved competitiveness, improved techniques and a more expansionary frame of mind; projecting the practice of the best practical interest rates, if necessary at the expense of the pound (music to some CBI ears) and at the expense of improving on the pace of its targeted cuts in inflation. The public sector has so far, unusually, shown private industry the way in curbing the growth of money wages. And the Government has finally met industry's united demand for an end to the National Insurance Surcharge.

ELECTIONS IN A MINEFIELD

There is much to observe in Nicaragua, whether we are officially observing it or not: Nicaragua's circumstances and future are a minefield for observers, obscured by smoke from a variety of sources. Reputations can hazily be seen to be at stake in tomorrow's elections. The United States has denounced them as a sham, and the most significant elements in the opposition have decided to abstain.

Opposition parties abstain when they consider that a government's possession of superior resources and its disposition to use them offer no fair chance, and that withdrawal will rob the victory of meaning and legitimacy. The Sandinistas certainly have the machinery: they have the army and the militia, the local committee structure, most of the press, radio and television, the censor, the rationing system, the youth organisations, the police and advisers from countries where governments never lose. They have lowered the voting age to 16. They are confident of gaining an overwhelming majority, despite their increasing unpopularity, against a divided, inexperienced and less privileged opposition. They are less confident about how much good this will do them if most of that opposition does not take part, or about where that will leave the country. They have made unsuccessful efforts to induce the abstainers to take part. The United States has encouraged them not to.

Abstention is not such an easy

decision, as is shown by the arguments and hesitations within the two principal opposition elements, the *Co-ordinadora Democrática* and the *Partido Liberal Independiente*: you sacrifice having a voice for making a stand; you give your opponents in the short term an even freer hand. There is not much pluralism in Nicaragua and abstaining can mean that there will be even less. But Nicaraguan conditions do not make for fair elections (elections are much more than mere voting, which is what observers usually observe). As the comparison will inevitably be made, there appears to be less opportunity for genuine political competition in Nicaragua than there is in El Salvador.

This is by no means just the result of a siege mentality, though it may be intensified by being under continuous pressure and attack. Similarly, the country's present economic ills are not all due to the United States boycott and the ravages of the *contras*: many of them are brought about by the economic models the *comandantes* have adopted. Peasants refuse to produce for controlled markets, shortages breed corruption. Discontent is met by increased controls, formal and informal, which the Sandinistas show little reluctance in inventing and applying. There is little sign of any independent labour movement and much of the church is now in opposition. Sandinista support has eroded but the government's grip has increased.

DREDGING AT DEDHAM

The sound of water escaping from milk-dams, willows, old rotten planks, slimy posts, and brickwork. I love such things... I associate 'my careless boyhood' with all that lies on the banks of the Stour; those scenes made me a painter, and I am grateful. John Constable writing to his friend Archdeacon Fisher.

That supplies one reason for keeping dredging machinery out of the river Stour in Dedham Vale downstream from Stratford St Mary. This is hallowed ground. It was his feeling for it that first raised Constable to become the master of English landscape painting. The sweep of the vale, the sky which is "the source of light and governs everything", were integral to the scene; but it is the micro-landscape of the river banks that Constable dwells on in that passage. It calls out to be undisturbed so far as continuing life and erosion by time allow.

A second reason for not proceeding with the scheme of the Anglian Water Authority to deepen and widen that stretch of the river is that the flood control it is intended to achieve might permit the riparian farmers to follow the line of profit and convert the permanent pastures bordering the river to barley or the dreaded oil-seed rape. That Constable liked a splash of colour in his landscapes and might have made something of the cadmium yellow of that alien crop is beside the point. Con-

stable Country is as it is, not as it might have been. The intermittent flooding of those pastures has been made worse by developments upstream which have added to the volume of water in the river. A scheme that has been on the stocks for twenty years or so has been dusted off and modified and is now somewhere in the town and country planning labyrinth.

The engineers have gone far to forestall aesthetic objections. Their plans entail no changes of water level, no straightening out of meandering, no interference with the ford at Flatford where the alternative of a contained flood-plain is proposed, few mature trees down, and saplings to be planted at the rate of three for every loss. Even reeds and weeds dug out in one place will be recolonised in another place along the stream.

The joint planning authorities too are very conscious of where they tread and are at their most tactful. An agreement with the farmers is poised in readiness whereby there would be no change of use from pasture for ten years, and notification for the next ten years to allow for management agreements inhibiting change in return for compensation (and by then, who knows, there may be agricultural planning controls in place for areas, like this, of "outstanding natural beauty"). The planners have even remembered to reserve

approval of the mixture of grasses chosen for receding where the spoil will have been put out.

It is a scheme that embodies well the new emphasis on conservation and protection of landscape. It also shows the farming and conservation interests joined in mutual comprehension. It is a scheme one would like to be able to commend. Besides, it does not do to be too pedantic about Constable Country. He took liberties with it himself: making the vale appear steeper than it is; widening the stream for The Hay Wain; positioning the tower of Dedham church with artistic licence; moving the mill-wheel at Dedham for effect.

And yet, there will be disturbance if the scheme goes ahead. The river banks will be raw and bruised for several years. Not all the good intentions might work out that way. Tillage of the willow-bordered pastures is made an option eventually, and public money is committed to an indefinite extent for the payment of compensation for not doing what ought not to be done. And what is it all in aid of? To extend the grazing season on 650 acres of permanent pasture, meant to be kept as it is. It is barely worth while even in narrow terms of agricultural output. In the sublime context in which the 650 acres sit, it is not worth while at all.

The business climate may not be ideal. It is better than for many years and as good a springboard as industrialists could reasonably hope for. It is time to get on with the job.

President Reagan's administration declares that democratisation is one of its four demands for "accommodation" with the Nicaraguan government, the other three being that Nicaragua should reduce its armed forces, and any assistance to subverting its neighbours and send home foreign military elements. The argument is that without democratisation there can be no guarantee that Nicaragua will follow a peaceful foreign policy freed from ideological determinants. These elections by themselves will not suffice to end US support for the *contras*. If they result in a more hard-line Sandinista government then fighting may continue with even less chance of a peaceful solution than there is now. It is not clear how or when this will produce what the United States essentially desires, a reliably neutral Nicaragua.

Tomorrow's elections are still worth some unofficial watching. There is still a little breathing space in the system, the government has attempted to recover from its failure to get much opposition participation by calling for a "dialogue" with all elements except the *contras*, and it has attempted its defiance of the United States with professions of its desire for an agreement and a cease-fire. "Dialogue" is a nebulous concept, but it is powerfully fashionable in central America and elsewhere in Latin America. Practical statesmen have to consider whether the alternatives, which are less nebulous, are any more feasible.

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Putting people in employment

From the Leader of the Social Democratic Party

Sir, Your editorial, "Forming the pace on jobs" (November 2), is yet another depressing contribution which offers not a single specific measure to reduce unemployment.

You criticise me for having "rashly entered the numbers game", but how much more would you have criticised the proposals I put forward, first in Wales on October 14 and then again in the House of Commons on October 30, for budgetary reflation combined with firm monetary policy if I had not provided detailed figures with an estimate of the net employment effect and the consequences for the FSR?

The modest and carefully costed measures I suggested would reduce unemployment by building mainly on existing industry and employment schemes managed by Government departments. You state that "those demanding reflation pure and simple would be better employed finding common ground with the Chancellor on wages".

This overlooks the fact that an important part of what I proposed involves a general restructuring of employment. National Insurance contributions to reduce labour costs and enhance the employment prospects of less skilled and lower paid workers.

You are right to declare that the Government has plenty of work to do, but it is very disappointing that you do not discuss more carefully these measures I suggested which the Government could be persuaded to implement.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID OWEN,
House of Commons,
November 2.

Racism and police

From Dr P. A. J. Waddington

Sir, The Labour spokesman, Clare Short, is entitled to her view that racial discrimination should be a disciplinary offence within the police. What she is not entitled to do is to bolster her case by misrepresenting research findings.

True, the Policy Studies Institute report, *Police and People in London*, did find that the use of offensive racialist language was common amongst Metropolitan Police officers. However, as the authors of that report were at pains to point out, they also found that these verbal habits were translated into discriminatory conduct only rarely. In this respect the report echoed academic research on the police published for the past twenty years.

Mr Short, and other critics of the police, may find it difficult to imagine that racist sentiments do not spill over from language into action. However, there is nothing uniquely anglic about the police in this regard, for it is a common human trait for people to do one thing in one context and quite another in a different situation.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. J. WADDINGTON,
University of Reading,
Department of Sociology,
Whiteknights,
Reading,
Berkshire,
October 30.

Maiden Castle dig

From Mr F. H. Thompson

Sir, An unwelcome asperity seems to be creeping into the pronouncements of the heads of English Heritage (Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England). The reply by the Chief Executive, Mr Rumble (October 19), based on information supplied by his archaeological staff, to Mr Taton-Brown's perfectly reasonable criticisms of the Commission's decision to institute fresh excavations at Maiden Castle (October 13) could have been more sympathetically phrased.

As it is, it gave the unfortunate impression that English Heritage shirks its own best and in its understandable desire to catch the public eye has decided to act without general consultation. The archaeological profession is populated, even over-populated, by articulate and intelligent men and women who will only accept that Maiden Castle is a good choice for further excavation after a thorough public debate on the merits of the proposal.

The parallel is the current operation at the Sutton Hoo burial ground being undertaken jointly by the Society of Antiquaries and the British Museum, but only set in motion after prolonged and careful discussion within the profession.

Yours faithfully,
F. H. THOMPSON,
The Tile House,
Blacksmith Lane,
Chilworth,
Kilford, Surrey,
October 20.

Famine in Ethiopia

From Mr Basil Davidson

Sir, Those who have watched at close hand the deepening dramas of the Horn of Africa over past years will salubriously note Dr Griffin and Mr Hamilton (October 30), who have emphasised the influence of long-term political factors. Effective aid can now mitigate the worst sufferings of this drought, and deserving every possible and urgent support. But emergency aid can be no more than a palliative.

It will be useful, if painful, to recall that the present catastrophe is a larger and more terrible repetition of almost comparable Ethiopian disasters of ten years back and, like them, has political as well as climatic or ecological roots. Without seeking to apportion blame, a search which could only hamper the transfer of emergency aid, we should consider how far international policies and attitudes can be influenced and reshaped, in relation

Proper purpose of religious studies

From the Director of the Farmington Institute for Christian Studies

Sir, Of the many excellent points you make in your leading article "RE, RI or RKC?" (October 31) may I highlight four on behalf of the Farmington Institute?

1. Such public acknowledgment of the real, as opposed to the theoretical, status of religious education in schools is timely. What is astonishing and needs to be publicized is the way in which deep and rigorous re-thinking has gone on within the subject, and some excellent practice achieved, in the face of the cavalier treatment the subject has received as regards time allocation, resources, training of teachers, status as regards promotion and so forth. In some schools, indeed, the subject has been virtually lost in amalgamations of one kind or another, many of them made for administrative convenience.

2. Yet the educational case for including religious education in the school timetable is overwhelming. It deals, as you note, "with one of the most important areas of human motivation and experience". Besides, this, as the recent grave events in India have underlined, religion misused is dangerously explosive.

The need to combat prejudice, to develop understanding, and to open up the possibility of a genuine spirituality which people can freely enter into, would seem to be urgent, not only for the welfare of individuals in this world of change but for the survival of civilized society as we know it.

3. Any form of indoctrination or pressurizing to join a group is inappropriate in schools, which pupils are obliged to attend. The distinction to which you draw attention between instruction and knowledge is crucial.

It is not for schools to say what people should believe; it is, however, for schools to fulfil their educational role of introducing children properly and fairly to the options. They are failing both children and society if they neglect this responsibility.

4. Your comments on the school assembly and its "conspicuous" worship are most apposite. May I share with readers who may feel unhappy about the inclusion of such opportunities for worship in

assemblies attended by all pupils, the following educational point.

The aim of such assemblies should be to help pupils gain understanding of religion, for which, as in many areas of life, some measure of participation is called for. Such participation is educational and does not imply commitment; it is, rather, the necessary rational pre-condition for either the rejection or acceptance of religious belief.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDA G. WATSON, Director,
Farmington Institute for Christian Studies,
4 Park Town,
Oxford,
November 1.

From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, Your leading article on religious education (October 31) represents an advance, but not a sufficient one. To summarize a long argument: this subject will become genuinely educational only when it ceases to be imposed by statute law and local bureaucracy and is put into the hands of the teaching profession; when it ceases to be a vehicle for any form of indoctrination or induction into any particular forms of belief and behaviour; when ethics and aesthetics are considered without supernatural inspiration; and when it is treated on the same basis as all other controversial subjects.

The problem is that the current anxiety about religious education has been caused by the recent appearance in our schools of large numbers of children from non-Christian families, although no one seemed to care about the previous existence of much larger numbers of children from non-religious families.

In the past such children have been faced with the unpleasant choice of either being withdrawn from religious worship and religious instruction or being subjected to offensive propaganda. It is high time to make sure that all serious views of the world - religious and non-religious, political and non-political - become the subject of genuine education for all the children in our schools.

NICOLAS WALTER,
Rationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1.

Commemorating arms

From Mr Ian McKitterick

Sir, Professor Howard writes (October 30) as if war was a natural disaster like plague and its causation beyond the responsibility of man.

The facts are that the great mass of the German people backed Hitler and glorified in his conquests; that the Russians in signing the Nazi-Soviet Pact made war inevitable, so that when we were at our weakest Russia and Germany were our enemies.

When Russia was attacked by its former ally I must say that, in common with countless others, I never felt that she was fighting for us or for any altruistic motive whatsoever.

She was fighting to save her own skin, first and foremost; later and secondly she strove in pursuit of conquests of her own. Nothing in her conduct after the war or since has served to alter that opinion.

If the cessation of hostilities must be celebrated, let it be celebrated quietly by giving thanks for the victory and by remembering those who died through German - and Russian - action. By all means let us forgive our enemies, but do not let us forget that they were our enemies.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MCKITTERICK,
58 Magdalen Road,
Exeter, Devon,
October 30.

Wider selection

From Mr H. H. L. Smith

Sir, Your report by the City Editor on the front page, the edition of October 24 to the effect that one of the large multiples is not to neglect clothes for the mature age is welcome, provided it also includes the larger sizes of dress number identification which sadly it neglects at the moment.

I had not realised prior to my retirement the ordeal my wife faces in buying ready-made clothes in this country. She is a 20/22 as there appears to be no consistency in classification of sizes. Her treatment in most of the multiples seems on a par to that claimed by the anti-racist and anti-sexist lobbies. She has frequently been treated as some leprous freak by assistants and often directed to a dingy hidden corner of

does he deplore their absence from last summer's Normandy landing celebrations?

The Russian war effort undoubtedly contributed to this victory, just as the Anglo-American war effort (and material aid) contributed to, say, the Russian victory at Kursk in 1943.

But Kursk was operationally an exclusively Russian affair, so the Western Allies could not expect to be equally honoured for it 40 years on. By the same token, the Russians could not expect an invitation to Normandy.

The anniversary of the general victory, created by all the Allied Powers, is a different matter. All must be honoured in 1985.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON GARRETT,
Bathwick House,
Bath, Avon,
October 31.

All lit up

From Mr David Hicks

Sir, Your article of October 29 about our coal stocks mentions the possibility of rationing electricity for street lighting.

As anyone flying into London Airport in the early hours of the morning can see, millions of street lights are blazing away and have been on all night. Could not a decision be taken to turn them off at midnight, by which time old ladies are surely in bed?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID HICKS,
David Hicks International,
101 Jermyn Street, SW1,
October 30.

a shop floor where a few items of poor style, design and quality of material are displayed.

No wonder my wife enjoys buying clothes in New York, where she is treated courteously and has the widest selection of choice. Specialist outsize shops in this country appear to levy a very heavy premium for the service they provide.

For a healthy woman from an ancestry of large forebears with a record of longevity I now appreciate why purchasing clothes is such a depressing experience for her. Perhaps a change of attitude is on the horizon.

Yours faithfully,
H. H. L. SMITH,
Timbers,
Moat Lane,
Farnham,
Surrey,
Kent.

aid continues to be offered and transferred in the largest possible degree, here will now be a powerful case for initiatives, perhaps launched by Britain on the basis of past responsibilities and involvements, that could work towards a "hands off" commitment by the "outside world".

If the region could be removed from the influence of external ambitions - or, at least, if the divisive force of such ambitions could be steadily reduced - the settlement of apparently intractable conflicts would be far less difficult than it is now.

Such initiatives will be hard to create and harder still to carry through. But the millions now facing death by famine need nothing less. They desperately want for food. No less desperately, they want for peace.

Yours sincerely,
BASIL DAVIDSON,
Old Cider Mill,
North Wootton,
Somerset,
October 30.

Feeling on India's lost leader

From Mr B. A. Baldry

Sir, One's deep-rooted resistance to the notion of a multicultural society - which is widely shared though never to be mentioned - is often reinforced by the apparent unwillingness of immigrant communities to make cultural and emotional concessions in the cause of integration. But while we may perhaps learn to forgive support for the wrong side in Test matches, how shall we overcome our revulsion at the spectacle of public jubilation over the killing of Indira Gandhi?

Yours faithfully,
B. A. BALDRY,
Chart Cottage,
Hambleton,
Surrey,
November 1.

From Mr Mohinder Singh Dang

Sir, June 5, 1984, was indeed a very sad day for all the Sikhs throughout the world. Indian Government ordered her troops to enter the holiest of our shrines, the Golden Temple, on that day.

But let there be no misunderstanding that we, the Sikhs, consider today, October 31, 1984, even a sadder day for us all and for our country, India, when some fanatic idiot very ruthlessly killed Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Those very few Sikhs who shamelessly rejoiced at her assassination are decidedly a tiny fraction of the Sikh community and certainly do not represent the vast majority of Sikhs who join the rest of their countrymen around the world to mourn this tragic and untimely death of one of the greatest leaders of the world and, without doubt, the best India ever had.

I pray to the Almighty for eternal peace to the departed soul and for calmness and wisdom to those left behind.

Yours sincerely,
MOHINDER SINGH DANG,
Department of Ophthalmology,
Memorial Hospital,
Hollyburn Road,
Dartington,
co Durham,
October 31.

The other MCC

From Mr T. J. Threlfall

Sir, Your Mr Blunsden's mention (October 10) of the Monte Carlo Rally as being "the oldest road motor sport event, dating back to 1911" is not entirely accurate. The Motor Cycling Club was founded in 1901 for members with motorcycles, as its name would indicate; like Mr Toad it soon spotted the sporting possibilities of the motor car and admitted them in 1907.

The MCC (with no cricketing connections) ran the first London to Edinburgh trial in 1908, in 1909 it ran the first London to Land's End (and back) trial, when 15 hours were allowed for the journey in each direction. In 1910 the club ran the first London to Exeter trial, to demonstrate that motoring was also possible in the winter.

The MCC continues to run these three road motor sport events; this year's Land's End trial, for instance, was the sixty-third and it attracted 350 starters - the maximum permitted by the RAC.

It would be a pity if what seems to have been a never best by the Montagues to persuade your Correspondent to re-write history in their favour were to be allowed to succeed.

Yours faithfully,
TOM THRELFALL,
Hollowforth,
Shawford,
Winchester,
Hampshire,
October 11.

In the name of charity

From Mr M. R. Nathan

Sir, Your article (October 19) raised several interesting points. The application of the cy-près doctrine to modern times was exhaustively examined by the Nathan Committee not so long ago and although its recommendations were accepted by the then Government, little action was taken.

The Charity Commission requires extensive reorganisation and the requirement for charities to file accounts is more honoured in the breach than the observance, as the figures given by you underline. One way to overcome this and to make the charity funds more meaningfully applied would be for charities whose terms are entirely local to file accounts locally rather than centrally.

Yours faithfully,
M. R. NATHAN,
2 Rosscourt Mansions,
Palace Street, SW1,
October 21.

Glittering prizes

From Mr P. K. Mansell

Sir, Can it be coincidental that the pound reaches a record low on the day (October 19) that the Booker Prize for fiction commands page one and Professor Stone's Nobel Prize for Economics is assigned to page 17?

Yours faithfully,
P. K. MANSELL,
As from PO Box 11-1369,
Bangkok 10110,
Thailand,
October 22.

Hic jacet...

From Mr R. H. Wright

Sir, Even in tropical heat there need be no lack of decorum. A catering rest house in Nigeria had a notice: "Visitors are asked to dress for dinner, e.g. shirt."

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT WRIGHT,
51 Mill Street,
Warwick,
October 31.

12, 13
Travel: Calm charm in the Caribbean; bargain flights to Europe; guide to Britain's best hotels; and Christmas breaks

14, 15
Values on lights fantastic; In the Garden: The fight against fungus; Eating Out: Wine bars with a difference; Drink

THE TIMES Saturday

16, 17
Family Life: Children and television; Chess; Bridge; Crossword; Review: Rock and jazz records; Galleries

19, 20
The Week: Critics' guide to Television, Music, Opera, Dance, Firework displays, Films, Radio, Auctions and Theatre

3-9 NOVEMBER 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Lunch with a killer

Stephen Ford and friend: Picture by Jonathan Player

For centuries falconry has cast a powerful spell over those who have sought to tame one of nature's wildest spirits. But now it is no longer a pastime for a few fanatics. As its popularity grows, so does controversy and even crime. Conservationists are highly suspicious, while the falcons themselves are prime targets for smugglers. George Hill casts a beady eye over Britain's most arcane blood sport



Somewhere in the Welsh mountains last month, a falconer tossed off his wrist into the sky a trained hawk worth perhaps £10,000 on the black market. Then he walked away and left it to fend for itself. Its release, by Dr Nick Fox, was not a heartless experiment, but the culmination of a two-year programme to rehabilitate a victim of smuggling.

The bird, a rare peregrine falcon stolen from the wild, had been found in 1982 as a chick hidden in the wing of an aircraft arriving in Munich from Britain. The species is virtually extinct in Germany, and some collectors and falconers are said to go to any lengths to obtain one. Smuggling birds of prey has become a highly lucrative business, a serious threat to conservation. Last month the police raided a farm in Staffordshire and seized unlicensed foreign species with an estimated black market value of £100,000. In the United States a series of court cases is uncovering evidence of an extensive worldwide smuggling ring allegedly involving members of the Saudi royal family.

When the stolen bird was returned from Germany, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds passed it to Dr Fox to train it to live in the wild - for hawks need to learn the arts of survival, from men if not from birds. This was a rare display of co-operation between conservationists are divided on whether the ancient art of falconry, now enjoying a revival, is a threat or a safeguard to our birds of prey.

It is the most arcane of our blood sports, and the least satisfying to those with a taste for a bagful of mangled corpses, as I found this week, tramping round the small hills near Newent with Philip Jones and his immaculate Harris hawk, George.

Our hunt was not unlike a stroll with a companionable, rather hungry and inconceivably mobile dog. George kept pace with us at a distance, trusting Philip to lead him towards the best spots for game. He was often out of our sight,

though I doubt whether we were ever out of his, and now and then he would return to the wrist with a jingling of bells, to show he had not forgotten us. He cast his piercing eye incessantly round the skirts of the woods for a live meal.

He made half-serious passes at a blackbird and a magpie which were being rather offensive, and struck down one small rabbit which never knew what hit it. But a whole week blazing away at hand-reared pheasants could not possibly have been as exciting.

I had first experienced the spell of birds of prey not long before, at the school of falconry run by Emma and Stephen Ford near Canterbury, when a buzzard called Freya decided in mid-flight towards me that she did not like my face.

Veering off her flight path like a hijacked airliner, Freya landed noisily in the upper branches of a tree and settled down for a sulk. She looked round at the dank English countryside and seemed to reflect that the world had changed for the worse since her ancestors were predatory dinosaurs in the primeval sunshine. There was no kite-string to haul her down with and the tree was far too tall and flimsy to climb. If she took it into her head to soar away for a circle or two, the wind might take her halfway across the county. She was free. There was nothing to draw her back to us but her own decision, and she glared out into the distance as if we were the worst kind of dirt.

"Whistle," said Emma, and I whistled as piercingly as I could, holding up my gauntleted left hand with a tender titter, the head of a day-old chick. Freya looked down with eyes sharp enough to count the pores on my cheek. Then she lurched forward, spread her dark wings, and came at me low down over the turf like a flying hearthrug.

This is the point at which beginners at the Ford's falconry school sometimes throw away the bait and run for cover. I stood my ground, and the bird reared up, turning her wings to brakes, and lowered her talons onto my wrist. She seized the raw chicken-head and gulped it down; its beak squeezed open like a snapdragon in dumb protest as it disappeared.

Surreptitiously, I gathered the jesses trailing from Freya's ankles. Every worthwhile sport has one central piece of magic: in the case of falconry, it is the force which brings a bird down out of the sky, back to the hand. It is a cold force, for a hawk is never tame in the way a pet is tame, never affectionate, or loyal, or eager for a caress.

I am a budgeter-gar man myself. I like to have small birds, different only in gaudiness from the cheeky ones that live out in the shrubberies, fluttering indoors to my hand for a taste of millet. One of my recurrent nightmares is that I have left a window open and the silly things go blundering irretrievably out. I thought a course in falconry might help to purge the dream, through exposure to weatherproof outdoor birds. If nothing else, I

How to handle a proud predator

A strong stomach and fine needlework are virtues in a falconer. Hawks are apt to kill, and constant vigilance is needed to see that they do not develop bumblefoot, snits, snurt, lethargy, nits, croaks and kecks, aspergillosis or frounce (the latter is invariably fatal). The trained eye can learn volumes from close study of the bird's daily regurgitations and their unforgoingly pungent droppings. Handling such fierce and fragile creatures calls for constant care. An array of cords, swivels and leather straps is needed to tether and transport them; there is a special knot to learn, which can be tied with one's single free hand, and in principle untied too, if necessary with the help of the teeth. Much expense is saved by cutting and stitching the leather gear oneself from tanners' offcuts. Mottled feathers have to be carefully saved in case of breakages: they can be grafted onto the stump of the broken feather in an exceedingly fiddly eyeball-to-eyeball process known as imping. The other essential piece of equipment for today's falconer is a deep-freeze filled with board-like rabbits and pigeons. First the young bird has to be gradually taught to take food from you, then to hop to your hand for it. Then short flights can be made, with the bird tethered to a 100yd line, called the creance. When it is flying free, it can be trained either

might pick up a few hints about the recovery of lost budgies.

With budgies and buzzards alike, most things come down to cupboard love. The secret of falconry is to keep a bird slightly peckish when you mean to fly it.

I had been rather surprised to find I could take a course at all. In the past, there were only two ways to become a falconer. The principal one was to be born into it, the alternative was to try and learn it from books, mostly facsimile reprints of manuals current in the time of James I.

Today it is again possible, after perhaps a century, for a limited number of people to shake a living out of the sport. Falconry almost died out in Britain in the 1700s when the gunsmith's art improved to the point where it became worthwhile to shoot game on the wing. Only a few obsessed

for displays or for hunting (the historic art of falconry) by flying the lure - a dummy bird on a string, whirled round the head like a lasso. (This often ended up coiled tightly round the beginner.) Then at last you can go out to hunt the ecological consequences are seldom significant, as by far the most common victims are rabbits and squirrels.

Week-long courses for beginners are run by Emma and Stephen Ford at the British School of Falconry, Stelling Minnis, Canterbury, Kent (022 787 575). They will be held between February and July this season, and cost £100 living out and £150 living in. Beginners train with adult buzzards, and advanced pupils mainly with Harris Hawks. The centre is not open to the public otherwise.

The Bird of Prey Conservation and Falconry Centre, Newent, Gloucestershire (0581 820286) is not offering courses this year because of involvement in a conservation project in Zimbabwe. They hope to resume next season, from October to March, with two-week courses in which pupils start with young buzzards and learn to train them. The centre is also open to the public from February to November inclusive.

The British Falconry Club, Moorhatters, Allington, Salisbury, Wiltshire (0980 611903). The Hawk Conservancy is in Weyhill, Andover, Hampshire (026 477 2252).

individuals kept the art alive. In this century there has been a revival of interest, which has gathered in recent years, in line with the increasing concern about wildlife.

The British Falconers' Club now has more than five times as many members as in the 1950s, and the numbers are rising fast. There are 2,500 registered keepers of birds of prey, with some 10,000 birds.

"Our main function is education," says Fred Smith, director of the Hawk Conservancy in Andover. "We have 100 or more visitors a day when we are open to the public in the summer."

There is also a limited but lucrative demand for trained birds to appear on films or television (the larger contract is a particular plum), some air bases employ hawks to chase away potentially hazardous flocks of birds and for a few, there may be even greater rewards overseas. The sport is still keenly pursued by the kings and sheikhs of the Gulf, who are ready to pay well for western skills, and for fine birds.

There are also less legitimate profits to be made from British wild hawks. It is hard to guess at the extent of smuggling: the Munich airport case is one of very few actually to reach the courts.

In Britain, only about 20 or 30 cases of robbery from the nests of protected birds of prey come to court each year. But the RSPB claims that as many as one peregrine nest in ten is robbed; even though the maximum fine has been raised to £1,000. The society keeps files on more than 100 suspects.

Who is to blame - falconers, egg collectors or smugglers? Peter Robinson of the RSPB believes that falconers and egg collectors may be equally responsible. But falconers reply that for most domestic species the supply of captive-bred birds is now so healthy that there is little incentive to take birds from the wild. They insist that they are also conservationists, who have played a major role saving birds which are threatened with extinction all round the world. (Nick Fox, is now in Mauritius attempting to help save the Mauritius falcon.) Largely at the insistence of falconers, immense advances have been made in breeding and veterinary skills.

New laws brought in two years ago introduced close regulation of the breeding and exchange of birds, with greatly increased penalties. "We are probably the most heavily-legislated sport in the country," Jim Chick, director of the British Falconers' Club, says. "The Department of the Environment have right of entry to inspect my breeding stock at any reasonable time, and in the breeding season they come four or five times to see which birds are mating and record the number of eggs. It's simply impossible to take birds from the wild and feed them into the registration system illicitly."

But conservationists remain suspicious. "Changes in the law have reduced the problem of poaching from the wild, but the system can never be made foolproof," Peter Robinson says. "Some of our members

would probably welcome a ban on the keeping of all kinds of birds of prey in captivity. There would be moral and legal problems about a complete ban, and the society wouldn't welcome it at this stage. But if we don't get our act together soon, we've got to consider it as a possibility."

Some of the heat has been taken out of the controversy recently as it has become clear that most domestic wild hawks are not in immediate danger of extinction.

Falconers insist that there is something special, almost mystical, about the partnership they have with their birds. "It's a totally natural sport. We do nothing with our birds that they wouldn't do in the wild, and we deal with them on a one-to-one basis," Jim Chick says.

But the number of people who want to keep birds goes on growing. It is possible to buy a kestrel or buzzard for £60 or less, and get all the necessary kit for a couple of hundred pounds more - modest expense compared to many of today's leisure pursuits. Hard cash is not everything, however: the main cost is time, and the most essential equipment is knowledge. Many people lack both.

Never say "Kest" to a falconer. "The film has done more harm to falconry than anything else," says Mrs Jenima Parry-Jones, of the Newent Bird of Prey Centre. "And the television people insist on repeating it just at the breeding season and encouraging small boys to go out and rob kestrels' nests."

The film, and the book it is based on, have had an immense influence. A small manifesto of disaffected boyhood, the story is urban, contemporary, astringent and captivating; it has immeasurably broadened the sport's appeal. "We've had brain-surgeons and bricklayers here - it's quite classless," says Mrs Parry-Jones. And she is right: two of my three fellow-pupils on the Ford's beginners' course were unemployed lads from the Midlands.

Not all of the new breed of enthusiasts are so keen to learn, which is why a few falconers have decided to offer formal instruction. Mrs Parry-Jones has been running two-week courses at Newent for 17 years and has had more than 600 pupils; they start with untrained birds and bring them through a basic training. The Fords began two years ago, taking beginners for week-long courses as well as offering instruction to more experienced falconers. "All responsible teachers stress that falconry is messy, bloodthirsty, difficult and uncomfortable. "Only 20 per cent of my pupils take it up afterwards, and that's fine," Mrs Parry-Jones says. "We don't encourage fair weather falconry."

And so it was that I had the chance to find myself standing in the middle of a field in Kent, chilled to the bone in three pairs of socks and two pairs of trousers, waving fragments of a disembowelled chicken in the air, and whistling like a commissionaire.

Freya spent much of the afternoon huring herself around swearing in 20 languages and flashing her starchy pinions across my arms and cheeks. Next day she was a perfect lady, as far as a creature designed for slaughter ever can be. She flew impeccably to the hand of one of the Midlands boys, while I fumbled my way through the daily weighing and exercise with another long-suffering buzzard called Bloggins, who glared scornfully at my clumsy fingers and finally took a remonstrative slash at them.

Buzzards are ideal birds for beginners, and these were accustomed to strangers, but none of us got through the week without minor bloodshed. I apologized to Freya and Bloggins for my lack of tact, and went home to the budgies.

Learning the rules of the falconer's game



Falconry terminology is irrevocably perverse. Like rhyming slang, it is in origin a trick to keep outsiders out. All hawks are by tradition called "she", regardless of sex, just like ships and windmills, and for the same reason: most falconers were men, and the relationship was intimate and engrossing.

It is vital to bear in mind that all hawking is falconry, but not all falconry is hawking; however, all falcons are hawks, but not all hawks are falcons. One who flies hawks is strictly not a hawk but an ostringer: a hawk is employed in relation to jellied eels rather than birds of prey. The word "cast" has five special meanings.

Strictly speaking, hawks, falcons and buzzards are all different. This is how you can tell them apart.

● **Falcons:** Long-winged, fast-flying, short-tailed. Chiefly rock-dwellers which hunt birds on the wing. Upright stance, often hooded to keep them calm before hunting. Quick learners and thrilling fliers. The kestrel is the most common, but too small to take game larger than a

sparrow. The peregrine is the aristocrat of falconry, spectacular and temperamental; able to take pigeons, grouse, partridge and rooks.

● **Hawks:** Short-winged, long-tailed, chiefly nesting in trees and hunting in short sprints in woodland, taking prey on the ground or near it. Sparrowhawk take finches, sparrows, thrushes; larger goshawk (still rare in wild) go for squirrels, rabbits and possibly gamebirds. Both are nervous and prone to fits. The Harris hawk is an equable imported species combining the virtues of long-wing and short-wing.

● **Buzzards:** Buzzards and eagles. Slow-flying birds found in hilly or mountainous country, with rounded tails and wings. Buzzards are the best beginner's bird, tough and trainable, though their lack of aggressive spirit makes them lazy hunters. Eagles are majestic and moody: they hunt rabbit, game-birds, even fox.

Next week: The shooting birds of Britain

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1

EATING OUT

IN THE GARDEN



East-West relations: Chinese food at Maxim Wine

Adventurous associates tempt the taste buds

No longer a mere adjunct to the drink, the food in wine bars is undergoing a transformation

Such is the rut into which most wine bars have fallen - the smoked mackerel syndrome - that any attempt at invention or individuality tends to be extravagantly welcomed, no matter how modest they may be. Earlier this year I reported on a wine bar serving Japanese food (Butchers in Upper Richmond Road) and was impressed both by the originality of the food and the efficiency of the operation.

On a similar level, Maxim, a recently-opened wine bar, has more than just novelty value in its favour. The novelty is provided by its Chinese food - Maxim's parent is a local Pekinese restaurant - but is supported by tasteful decor (pale green colours, marble-topped tables) and an extensive range of reasonably-priced wines.

The idea of a marriage between the wine-bar, that symbol of European snobbery, and a Chinese restaurant, the late-night after-pub stand-by, may seem bizarre. At Maxim, however, the relationship works. The short menu is strong on savoury appetizers which make ideal accompaniments to wine - served in a basket (£2.90) which offers a selection of spare-ribs, sesame prawn toast, spring rolls, deep-fried dumplings filled with spicy beef, the appetizers are also available in individual portions priced between £1.50 and £3.

More substantial dishes are offered in the form of a casserole of the day (perhaps beef and pork with bamboo shoots and carrots, £2.80), griddle-sizzled pork, prawns or chicken (£3) or, a true break-through for East-West relations, sliced Peking duck in a soft bun (£2) served with spring onions and hoisin sauce, and a dish of noodles.

Maxim's menu is completed by banana fritters, lychees or the spectacular bombe Alaska, a huge hot meringue dome covering ice cream, fresh fruit and sponge, flamed in brandy. Among the comprehensive and cosmopolitan wine list, you

might like to try a bottle of Dynasty, a fruit-medium dry wine made in China.

Must grapes in the Bordeaux region of France - another successful blend of cultures. Curiously enough, Chinese spare ribs appear on the menu at Schatz's, a small, cosy Soho wine bar which, just to blur the international borders still further, is owned by a German Jeweler. With this sort of crossover involved, it's hardly surprising that the wines seem to attract more attention than the food which, despite the ribs (served in a mess' ginger sauce) rather routine.

Still their home-made tomato or thyme soup is worthy, and they have one or two casseroles style dishes - hunter's chicken, oriental pork - which will undoubtedly complement Schatz's intimate, candlelit atmosphere in the coming winter. The selection of wines from their own estate at Gubischhofshaus deserves investigation, with Kellers Muller-Thurgau Kabinett 82 (64.5) probably the most acceptable to people who favour dry white wine.

One way to find decent food in a wine bar is to look for one of those rare operations which are attached to an existing restaurant where you can enjoy cheaper spin-offs from a more exalted kitchen. The Wine Gallery is another addition to this short list, being adjacent to and sustained by Hinkley's, a highly regarded Franco-English restaurant.

The elegant wine bar can boast an imaginative range of excellent quality dishes which, for obvious reasons, wouldn't look out of place in a restaurant. Arbroath smoked mackerel, fish soup with saffron, cheese meringue (pastry parcels) with redcurrant jelly, duck terrine stuffed with pea and pepper corns and served with an onion marmalade, are among the starters, at around £1.80 each.

The main courses are obviously more limited by their prices (around £5), but veal bratwurst with cabbage and chips, Irish stew and mash are perfect supper dishes. Puddings resume the restaurant connection - creme brûlée, delicious chocolate meringue, lemon cheesecake and another welcome by-product of the association with Brinkley's is that you're obliged to leave after the 11pm closing time.

Stan Hey

Maxim Wine, 7 Boston Parade, Boston Road London W7 6BT 9708, Mon-Sat 5-11pm, Schatz's, 46 Lexington Street, London W1 (437 5708), Mon-Fri 11-11pm, The Wine Gallery, 40 Hollywood Road, London SW10 (352 7572), Mon-Sat 6-11pm and 7-11pm.

War with the enemy that lurks under the surface

Honey fungus is on the march and this year I have seen more of the disease than for a long time. It is a sickness which can strike at any time and no garden is safe.

Roots left in the ground after the mass felling of elm trees are ideal breeding places for the disease to multiply.

At the moment many of the honey fungus "mushrooms" are to be seen growing from the base of affected trees or from the area where a tree has been felled. They are a honey colour at first but change to mushroom and then dark brown.

The mushrooms finally turn black and rot. It is during this period that spores are released into the atmosphere, spreading the disease. Destroying the toadstools as they appear is one way of reducing the disease.

Armillaria mellea, to give honey fungus its right name, attacks plants at or just below ground level. It is also called bootlace fungus because the disease spreads by rootlike stems. These wander through the ground and have the appearance of wrinkled bootlaces. They attack through wounds in the root system of plants.

If you suspect a tree or shrub is under attack, lift the bark at ground level and if the disease is well advanced you will see the white mycelium which is growing fan-shaped under the bark. Dig carefully round the tree and remove the "bootlaces" which are another indicator that the tree is being attacked.

The first indication of the disease would be a plant becoming sickly. Look for signs of poor health such as reduction



On the march: Fungus growing at ground level

in annual growth or a loss of that healthy glow one expects. In conifers one of the usual symptoms is the vast increase in the number of cones produced and the trees could exhibit resinous outcrops, as burrs, close to the base of the trunk. If a shrub dies and is then followed by another next to it, the chances are the disease is about. It is not a quick killer and there may be signs of deterioration for two years before the plant dies.

There is no real control except to follow the ground and lift woody material from the soil. Remove all "bootlaces" bits of wood, root or branch and burn them.

Should a plant have been killed by honey fungus, don't replant immediately in the same area with other woody subjects. Use annuals or herbaceous plants as a stopgap to allow the disease to die out. This may take up to four years. Do not plant species which

are known to be prone to attack from the disease. These include privet and lilac, apples, silver birch, willows and walnuts. The conifers most at risk are *Chamaecyparis*, cedars, pines and monkey puzzle trees. Their soft woods do not last long where the disease is active.

If you must replace plants in the same spot try ash, beech, lime and oak trees. Shrubs that may resist the disease are holly, laurel and thorn, but also look at *Elaeagnus*, *Mahonia*, *Rhus typhina* and tamarisk. Climbers which seem to survive despite the disease are clematis and honeysuckle. Conifers safest to plant include yew, larch and *Abies*.

Chemicals are of little use as none of the cures will act in all conditions and in all soils. There are treatments which can be tried, but I do not know of any which will give you any kind of guarantee.

Ashley Stephenson

Colour control

Much is said about using bulbs to produce spring colour, but I think beds can be improved if there is a variation of plants. Spring flowering plants not only add something which is different to the beds, but also lengthen the period when colour is available.

Make your bedding plans carefully, to ensure that the combinations of plants enhance each other. There is a wide range of plants to use which can all be raised in the garden. Seed is not sown at this time of year but plants will be available in garden centres or nurseries.

The most common spring bedding plant is the wallflower which is widely grown because of its scent. Colours are red and yellow, with off colours which can be made to fit into particular beds. Unfortunately many of the red varieties "break" or become streaked with yellow due to a virus.

The most important introduction into bedding at this time of year are the new winter flowering pansies.

Brightest berries

Bright blue is one of the colours that brings out the best in a garden. That is why it is worth trying to find a place for *Symphlocos paniculata*, with its eye-catching berries. The flowers, which are white and scented, appear in May, but are unexceptional.

Under good conditions this rare plant will grow to 10ft and like many plants which are grown mostly for their fruits, they should be planted in groups, since single specimens rarely look effective and as *Symphlocos* does not set fruit from its own pollen, there need to be a number of plants to ensure cross fertilization.

Although it is not classed as tender it does not like cold or wet areas. It particularly dislikes over-wintering in soil which is wet and heavy, but soil conditions are not critical, as long as it is well-drained and is not an extreme of the pH range. It is the moisture which accompanies cold weather which causes damage.

An open site is necessary for the plant to ripen its wood and the more care expended in this respect, the better it will perform. The best method of propagation is from seed, but cuttings may be taken in July from semi-ripe lateral shoots. Seed must be sown as soon as it is ripe, and not left lying about.

Plants are available from Hilliers of Winchester, Hampshire.

So blue: *Symphlocos paniculata*



Bedflowers: Polyanthus (left) and wallflowers add variety

which will give colour through the winter and spring. *Polyanthus* are my favourite. Unfortunately the birds like them as well. This year I have been giving *Scot* from Garotta an extended trial to see if it gets rid of the birds. It has worked well up to now and I

hope I may get a better show this coming spring. Distribution is made much easier if you plant bulbs before the spring bedding plants. Other plants to use include *Myosotis*, *Bellis* (the large flowered daisies) and *Arabis alba* which have white flowers.

Winter blooms

The *Viburnum* family has much to offer in autumn and winter. They produce colour and berries and many of them begin to flower now. *Viburnum davidii* is a low growing shrub which produces masses of rich blue fruits. The flowers need cross pollinating so it is essential that more than one shrub is planted.

Another which provides attractive bright red fruits is the Guelder Rose *Viburnum opulus*, which is self pollinating. One of my favourites is *V. betulifolium*, the fruits are again red and a quarter of an inch long. Cross pollination is necessary, however. Other fruiters, such as *diuturnum*, also need cross fertilization.

V. tinus, will remain in flower all through the winter. There are a number of good forms such as *Eve Price* which is more compact, and *Variegatum* which has yellow variegations but is more tender. *V. bodnantense* flowers from December with sweetly scented flowers formed in clusters at the



Guelder Rose: In fruit soon

tips of branches. *V. farreri* has pale pink buds which open to sweetly scented white flowers. Still classed as early flowers but which don't show colour until late March, is *V. burkwoodii*, an evergreen. It has scented flowers in corymbs rather than clusters, and pink buds opening to white. *V. carlesii* is a beauty with one of the nicest scents and pure white flowers. Finally there is *V. x carlescephalum* with bigger heads of white flowers appearing in April.



Show shoppers: Gladiolus carry a welter of flowers on frost stems

Cold comfort

The hot, dry summer was responsible for the excellent show of gladiolus this year. It is some time since I have seen better spikes with such clear and distinct colours. *Groenlandia* and *Montebello* were also good even though it was on the dry side for them.

It is risky to leave plants like gladiolus in the ground during winter. The quality of the soil in your garden determines how important it is to lift and store them or to leave them in the ground. Heavy, wet soils or those which are damp in the winter are not suitable to leave plants in; well drained and light soils are much better.

The leaves of gladiolus go dry and straw like and they are then ready to be lifted - do not worry if there is still some green left down on the foliage.

Lift the corns carefully with the foliage attached. Small cornets usually formed round the base of the plant should be removed. They can be used to raise more flowering corns. Plant them in seed trays in the spring to give them a start.

The gladiolus just lifted should be brought into a frost-proof, unheated shed or a greenhouse where the bulbs can be properly dried off.

In London and the South-east make no attempt to lift *Groenlandia* and *Montebello*. In the colder parts of the country there may be risk in leaving them, particularly if you have obtained some of the newer varieties.

Where it is considered necessary lift the plants and store them as you would dahlias. They should be packed in dry peat in a frost free, dark shed.

Jane MacQuitty

DRINK

Present preparations for future pleasure

November, you may feel, is far too early to think about Christmas wines, but many merchants will guarantee delivery before Christmas Day only if orders are placed by the end of this month.

Among them are Justini & Brooks in St James's and this year they have a wide range of vintage gifts at specially reduced prices. From their range of wines packed in handsome wooden boxes I rather liked the sound of the port and sherry case containing J & B's own Director's Bottle port and fine old amontillado sherry (priced at £11.50 including postage and packing, from Justini & Brooks, 61 St James's Street, London SW1).

The delicate delights of a true, early-landed, late-bottled vintage cognac that has matured gently in our temperate climate rather than in the heat of the Cognac region are a rare treat. J & B stock Hennessy's 1959 Vintage Grande Champagne Cognac, landed 1963 and bottled 1982 (£30).

I & B's autumn list, indeed, offers everything from '45 Monton Rothschild (a bargain at £450) down to a snailily priced range of house wine with some of the prettiest wine labels (designed by Cecil Beaton) I have seen anywhere. Their house white Burgundy from Bacheroy Josselin, with its lively pineapple-like Cardonay flavour, is the most popular



wine in the range and would make a good November white wine. It costs £3.95.

Across the road from Justini's is another famous St James's merchant - Berry Bros & Rudd, (3 St James's Street, London SW1). Their 10 gift packs are presented in smart cardboard boxes. "Picking Place" contains a bottle of Berry's own methode champagne fizz from the Loire, their own-label Pinot Noir, and a bottle of their wood port, all for £16. Their "Backbencher" is another good Christmas idea, containing a bottle of Berry's Champagne, an eight-year-old Chateau de Laubade Armagnac from the largest vineyard in the Armagnac appellation under single ownership, and their strong spicy King's ginger liqueur priced at £35. (Both packs include delivery anywhere in mainland UK.)

Berry's list offers 68 new wines including an excellent new AC red Burgundy. This Bourgogne Pinot Noir comes from the well-known Beaujolais firm of Thorin at Pontenaveaux and with its medium purple colour and rich young raspberry fruit character I found it more Beaujolais than Burgundian (£3.55). I am not so fond of its white twin, the Bourgogne Pinot Chardonnay (also £3.55).

Harveys is the other big, traditional wine merchant whose Christmas orders must be in by the end of the month in order to guarantee delivery before the big day. Harveys Christmas gift cases always include a wide range of inexpensive items and this year there are 12 different suggestions, all priced under £20. The celebration case (£18.28) is one of the best, and contains a magnum of Harveys' excellent Pinot Champagne. Or, their king-sized gift case (£8.45) which includes a litre bottle of Harveys' Bristol Cream sherry might suit an elderly relative.

Their case for special occasions is slightly more expensive at £29.32, but good value as it contains four different bottles of wine including Pinot Champagne, Touraine Sauvignon and 1981 No 1 Claret in addition to a bottle of their Club Amontillado sherry and Cockburn's ruby port. Prices include postage and packing. Write to John Harvey & Sons, Harvey House, PO Box 55, Bristol, Avon for an order form.

The news this month is that at long last Baron Philippe de Rothschild and Robert Mondavi's celebrated Californian Opus One est arrivé. Priced at a steep £39.50 per bottle, no one could describe this Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon as a bargain buy, but in the United States the Opus is now impossible to buy through normal retail outlets and is changing hands privately for \$100 plus per bottle.

Only the '79 and '80 have been released and although the US - pundits are backing the austere, tannic '79 with its strong oaky taste, the '80, with its purple-black colour and spicy oaky smell and taste, is actually a much better wine. (Les Amis du Vin, 51 Chiltern Street, London W1 stock the '79 for £39.50; The Wine Studio, 9 Eccleston Street, London SW1 carry the '80 and limited stocks of the '79 for £39.50, one bottle per person only.)

The Wine Studio includes 150 Californian wines in its new list. Intriguingly, the Studio has set up a series of tasting dinners this month, offering "the eternal fascination" of comparing

French and Californian wines. The first, on November 13, compares 1980 American Pinot Noir with 1980 red Burgundy; the second, on November 20, compares California Chardonnay with white Burgundy. Both three-course dinners held at L'Escargot in Greek Street, London W1, feature 10 different wines and cost £22.50 per head.

Jane MacQuitty

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Westwood

With the consommé, a medium wine is clearly most palatable.

Serving wine with a consommé is a little like serving a drink with a drink.

What then do you provide with this delicious, but troublesome first course?

A superb Amontillado such as Osborne Coquinero is the answer.

Dry, but not too dry. And full bodied to complement the thinness of the soup.

Coquinero is one of a range of great sherries, carefully developed by Osborne over 212 years.

You can delight your guests by serving one instead of a conventional wine with many of the world's great dishes.

May we suggest you try it next time you have people round?

Osborne Coquinero

-Italy-

life of the kitchen

A graphic exhibition of Italian kitchens through the ages - with modern examples -

at the

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Telephone: 01-734 2412/8

November 5-7 1984 Trade only
Open to the public from November 8-15
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Co-ordinated by the Italian Trade Centre in conjunction with Assosagra - The Italian Association of Furniture Manufacturers of Piedmont-Arno

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COLLECTING

A great impression by all that is small

I was as Gulliver in Lilliput. The Lord High Treasurer (remembered from childhood reading) was with me, and for the moment he relented over the expense of having Gulliver in their midst, for he had cost the Emperor a million and a half sprigs. In Lilliput a sprig was their greatest golden coin, "about the bigness of a spangle", and now before me was a whole cabinet of the choicest examples of these pieces, there for me to examine.

The cabinet was no more than 75mm high, beautifully made in English walnut. For just a moment I lifted it up carefully from the table, and it weighed - contents and all - less than 198 grams. Inside were 14 trays, 13 of them with little round holes for the coins to fit into. The last, of double thickness, was a plain drawer. The collection contained over 90 different coins and medallions - spangle-sized sprigs indeed, each and every one of them - filling up the trays. I cannot think of any other cabinet, rich or rare, that has given me as much pleasure as this little one.

We live in a micro-world, and it seems more and more that the great inventors of our age tell us that all things familiar to us are better when shrunk. But there have been generations of collectors who have always thought small. In Windsor, I and my children rush fondly to the Queen's Doll's House, drawn to a world where everything is in miniature.

Miniature books, too, existed in the days before printing, and were veritably mass produced in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. And micro-numismatics has been around for a long time as well. Coins, even big ones, have the disadvantage of being small items, but the collector brave enough to accept that all that is small is not bad, can find much enjoyment in them.

The collecting "bug" starts in curious ways. The owner of the cabinet I have described is an avid collector of facts, just as much as objects and coins, and back in the 1930s, he read in a biography of Frederick (The Grand Old) Duke of York that miniature medals were produced to be set into memorial rings for wearing at the duke's funeral. My friend started a search for such a medal and that was the beginning of the collection. These jewelry pieces were struck in this country depicting George IV, William IV and Queen Adelaide, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, and some of their children.

The British Museum has a unique portrait medal of John Brown, quite large at 13mm diameter, and set into a pin. Wellington was very popular and there must be at least five different medals of him. Nelson had been killed before they became fashionable, but Lord Byron is found on two. These medals were struck at a time when the new reducing machine made the die work possible, and some pieces are very small indeed. One medal of Queen Victoria weighs only 2.62 grains or 0.17 grams, and it is only 5.5mm in diameter. If the collector is more broadminded, accepting a diameter of around 20mm, then his whole field of collecting - will expand too: 20mm is still small, but it is four times the size of the really miniature pieces.

In France Napoleon appears on several medals, but the tradition goes back further to the monarchy, and the earliest miniature medal that I have seen is of Henry IV, dated 1605. The tradition of medal striking has long been accepted as both art and business by the French. British coins offer one opportunity, the little penny of the Maundy series, which has been continuously struck in silver since the reign of Charles II. The present day Maundy penny of the Queen is 11mm diameter and weighs less than half a gram.

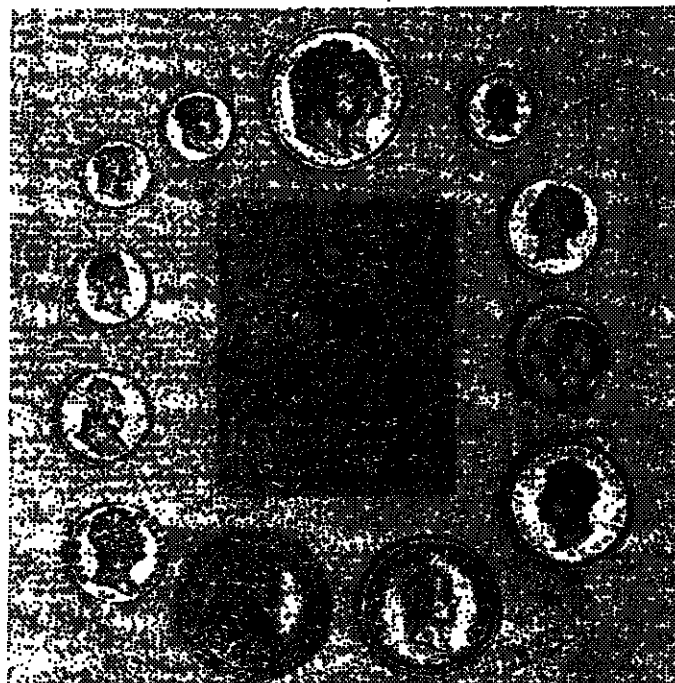
The Greeks are credited with inventing our "modern" coinage, and they certainly also invented miniature coins. The Romans, too, had some minute pieces or minims, all of which must have been hard to strike, while harder still would have been the actual making of the die, cutting a reversed image, 6mm in diameter, into cold metal. Above all else, they must have been diabolical to go shopping with, one moment tucked up in the toga, the next spinning off down the road.

More recently the Germans managed to get 32 gold coins from one ducat, while the Nepalese split their gold mohar into 64 parts. It was left to the Indians to perfect that most worthless of all small coins - the dam. First minted in the sixteenth century, they were then, and still are, "not worth a dam".

Having aroused the interest, perhaps I should suggest to the owner of the little cabinet, that he publish a book of the collection - in miniature of course.

Daniel Fearon

Daniel Fearon is the author of *Spink's Catalogue of British Commemorative Medals 1558 to 1984* (Spink, 1984, £12.95).



Small wonders: An ancient Greek gold obol (right, centre) and a group of English and European miniature medals, which were popular for making up into jewelry pieces

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 486)

Prizes of the New Collins Concise English dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, November 9, 1984. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC9 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, November 10, 1984.

- ACROSS
- 1 Mythical basket (8,3)
 - 2 Violent attack (7)
 - 3 Radiolocal (5)
 - 4 Pig pen (3)
 - 5 Military group (4)
 - 6 Carnival (4)
 - 7 Be against (6)
 - 8 Publicity stunt (4)
 - 9 Pincer (4)
 - 10 Injury (6)
 - 11 Dispatch (4)
 - 12 Manner (4)
 - 13 Spider's net (3)
 - 14 Excuse (5)
 - 15 Examine closely (7)
 - 16 Goad perimeter (6,5)

- DOWN
- 1 Brazilian palm (5)
 - 2 Beat (4)
 - 3 Divulges secrets (4)
 - 4 Nimble (4)
 - 5 Eccentric (7)
 - 6 SW Pakistan province (11)
 - 7 Financial supporter (11)
 - 8 Thin paper (6)
 - 9 Foot digit (3)
 - 10 Scanty (6)
 - 11 Basket (7)
 - 12 Cambridge river (3)
 - 13 Pastoral poem (5)
 - 14 Brains (4)
 - 15 Farm outbuilding (4)
 - 16 Down (4)

SOLUTION TO No 485
ACROSS: 1 Credit 5 Jigsaw 8 Emu 9 Circus 10 Noodle 11 Peer 12 Inactive 14 Swampy 15 Beggar 16 Insipid 22 Gory 24 Damage 25 Abilene 26 Duet 27 Tetchy 28 Outside
DOWN: 2 Raze 3 Decorum 4 Testify 5 Junta 6 Ghast 7 Alluvial 13 Cue 15 Winsome 16 Pig 17 Bravado 18 Goggles 20 Isaac 21 Noddy 23 Razed
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

The winners of prize concise No 486 are: A.M. Polhill, Tipton, St. John, Pilsbury, Slingshot, Devon, and Mrs. H. Shaw, Shrewsbury, Down Lane, From, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

SOLUTION TO No 486 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Clairvoyant 9 Nairobi 16 Lived 11 Nip 13 Edda 16 April 17 Laisle 18 Sure 20 Ants 21 Filly 22 Tusk 23 Truce 25 Use 28 V sign
DOWN: 2 Laid 3 Lido 5 Vein 5 Yelp 6 Navarin 7 Inesistive 8 Adolescence 12 Insult 14 Ale 15 Habits 19 Resting 20 Apt 24 Rites 25 Unto 26 Epee 27 Halo

Name: _____
Address: _____

FAMILY LIFE



Children's idols: Playschool presenter Fraser Wilson encourages activity; Dangermouse strikes a pose

Speak up, don't shut up, about TV

There is a children's television programme, screened by the BBC, during school holidays, entitled "Why don't you...". Regular viewers will know that the complete title reads as follows: "Why don't you just switch off your television set and go out and do something less boring instead?" It is a suggestion that parents have been making to their children ever since the television set became part of the furniture.

Parents - or at least those in my particular circle of friends - seem to be growing increasingly concerned about the effects of a heavy daily diet of television. Certainly the publication this month of *Mind and Media* (Fontana £2.50) suggests that there is a market for more information.

The book deals not only with television but also with computers and video games, the author, Patricia Marks Greenfield, is Professor of Psychology at the University of California and has published numerous articles and several books on child development. What she has to say is clearly written, easily assimilated and, although it is aimed primarily at Americans, most of it is equally relevant to British parents.

There are many messages in the book, some predictable, others surprising. Professor Marks Greenfield, far from giving a blanket thumbs-down to television, suggests that if properly used it can help a child to acquire skills, both physical and mental, inspire creative

thinking and teach children who have difficulty with traditional learning techniques.

One of the most interesting chapters in the book deals with what the author calls "film and television literacy" - the ability (or lack of it) to understand television's symbolic code. She argues that having some grasp of the techniques used in television is critical to a child's interpretation. For example, a simple "cut" usually implies a change of scene; a "zoom" on a detail suggests that the detail is the key element in the more general picture that has just been seen and so on.

The author claims that techniques such as montage and close-up may not be understood by children under the age of seven; consequently they may get quite the wrong impression of what they are seeing.

Most parents will be able to think of examples of small children grappling with the images they see on the screen: the two-year-old who tries to grab hold of what he thinks is his teddy, the five-year-old who bursts into tears as a monster looms large. What we don't know, unless we watch all television programmes with our children, is precisely how they are affected by what they see.

Reading *Mind and Media* presents parents with a number of facts of which they may have been unaware, and confirms what many of us have always suspected - namely that our role as interpreters, commentators, comforters even, may be

critical, especially as regards very young children.

Television advertising, for example, relies heavily on certain techniques, many of which are easily understood by young audiences. Educationalists working in television know that jingles, slogans, names and their repetition are useful tools in the learning process. So do the advertisers, and they have soaring sales to prove it.

The careful parent will make sure that the child who is learning from *Playschool* will be taught the difference between that kind of programme and a 30-second commercial selling sweets.

It would be reassuring to believe that once a child has understood how to decode the symbolism of television and learned to separate fact from fantasy and fact from opinion, then he or she could be allowed to ingest a varied diet of television with few ill consequences. Unfortunately, Professor Marks Greenfield suggests with great authority, it isn't necessarily so.

Television reinforces stereotypes and can have an insidious influence on behaviour and beliefs. Watching a popular comedy series in which men are "machos" and women feeble or flighty, may leave an enduring conviction that all men and women can be categorized in this way.

Parents cannot prevent this happening; what they can do to counteract it is to comment

firmly, volubly even, on the stupidity, inequality, or fatuity of the script or the action. And that can achieve quite a lot. They may not be very popular as a result, but in the long term the interference will be far more beneficial than keeping quiet and hoping that the child's common sense is in operation.

By the same token, parental comment and discussion can act positively in reaffirming those beliefs and attitudes that you wish your children to adopt, or at least listen to: so you should be just as vociferous about programmes that you believe are good - in content and design.

One final piece of advice from the author of *Mind and Media* she says: "It is useful to remember that television seems to be especially influential in forming attitudes and knowledge on topics with which children lack experience. Children who have a first hand knowledge of a topic make a clearer separation between the real world and the television world. Thus, parents can counteract television by giving their children first-hand experience in areas they consider important."

In other words: "Why don't you just switch off your television and..."

Judy Froshaug

Next week, Judy Froshaug talks to the people responsible for choosing and producing children's programmes.

Outings

WENCESLAS - THE WINTER KING: Last chance to see Polka's autumn production for 7-11 year olds. It is a tale of mystery and adventure as experienced by a group of medieval travelling players who set out to discover the reasons for the freezing cold weather from which their country is suffering. Polka Children's Theatre, 240 The Broadway, London SW19 6JG (4888). Today 2pm and 5.30pm. Adult £3.50, child £1.80.

LONDON FIRE PREVENTION WEEK EXHIBITION: A small

exhibition mounted by the London Fire Brigade primarily for children: they will be able to dial 999 and see how the call is dealt with and transmitted to the appropriate fire station and collect a print out of their call; inspect two rooms in which common fire hazards are present and see the special cameras used by firemen in poor visibility. Museum of London, London Wall, EC2 (800 3698). Today 10am-6pm, tomorrow 2-6pm. Admission free.

THE MAGIC BOX AND MORE MONKEYS: Double bill includes a musical marionette mime of a boy who goes on a dream journey and

a troupe of monkey marionettes up to a wagonload of tricks, both performed by the Movingstage Marionette Company, just returned from their summer tour. Puppet Theatre Barge, Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 (249 6876). Today, tomorrow and every Sat and Sun until Christmas, at noon and 3pm. Adult £2, child £1.50.

UP THE MARKET: An exhibition which traces the history of London's great markets - Covent Garden, Smithfield and Billingsgate - from medieval times to the present day. Many fascinating exhibits, including 1920s newsreel

of Bermondsey docks and Billingsgate, an early 3-D stereoscope, early porters' clothing and sets of dentists' teeth-pulling equipment. Livestock Museum, 682 Old Kent Road, London SE15 (639 5604). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Admission free.

HIP HOP CLUB: Good news for break dancers, rappers and scratchers: a new club, run by the Mastermind Roadshow, has opened in south-east London. The Albany Empire, Douglas Way, London SE8 (691 3333). Tomorrow and every Sun, 2-4.30pm. Adult £2, child £1.

OUT AND ABOUT

Stealing the march on Hadrian's Wall

Hadrian's Wall still surprises. A section, rising stone upon stone to 10 ft high, has just been dug out of a steep sided gully at Castle Nick, West of Housesteads. "This is the tallest part ever excavated", said James Crow, director of excavations for the National Trust on the wall, suitably excited by the find.

The chunks of masonry, hidden under tons of soil and grass for centuries, form a dramatic boundary across the contours of exposed Northumbrian countryside.

Following the wall, its forts, milecastles, roads, vallums and vicus (civilian settlements) is an exhilarating experience, stretching across 73 miles. To the east, at the Fort of Arbeia in South Shields, a sumptuous residence, probably home of the regional military commander, is coming to light. In Carlisle, to the west, recent finds include a turned wooden sewing kit, which opened to reveal needles still in place - perhaps dropped from a Roman soldier's pocket nearly 2,000 years ago.

At Castle Nick, commonly called Milecastle 39, archaeologists are pondering the meaning of crosses and other mason's signs.

At the bottom of the gully is a solitary sycamore, walled in last century, leading many a teacher to misinform pupils - "this is a milecastle". Only the discerning will recognize the shielings beside the wall - medieval shelters for herdsmen in summer - and know that piles of stones are genuine Roman rubble.

The debris has revealed pottery, spearheads, broken bronze brooches and an unusual Roman coin spring. A decorated window head, with carved circles and crosses was probably brought from a nearby fort and used in wall reconstruction. Clues to the past abound.

"Thirty thousand men, soiled here, legends and their auxili-

aries", explained the archaeologist, is heaped up onto the wall to indicate a smooth and angled chamfered stone in the core. "That's evidence of major rebuilding around 200 AD."

From then, for centuries, the wall was plundered, covered by roads, dug out and eventually in the nineteenth century saved in part by John Clayton, one of the first archaeologists, who is featured in the display at Housesteads Museum.

Among the worse desecrations was a turn-of-the-century quarry which totally destroyed irreplaceable yards near Carvoran. With a neat historical twist, that 40-acre whinstone quarry is now being landscaped as a prelude to a planned, grassy development named Walltown, which would cost well in excess of £1m and offer a Disneyesque reproduction with towering wall 21 ft high, turret and accompanying Roman Archaeological Theme Park.

While delicate political debate continues over Walltown, concern that the original surviving wall and its system must be protected and presented as a unified whole, led to a consultative working party with 32 interested bodies - the Countryside Commission, tourist boards, local authorities and private owners, who still possess acres of Hadrian's domain, (though that is changing).

The Countryside Commission has given £50,000 to Northumberland County Council.

Hadrian's Wall excavation will feature in the National Trust annual meeting in Newcastle upon Tyne today.

Details about places to visit and accommodation from Cumbria Tourist Board, Ashleigh, Holy Road, Windermere, Cumbria (0562 4444) and Northumbria Tourist Board, 8 Osborne Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne (0632 617744), who publish a free leaflet on Hadrian's Wall.

A Hadrian's Wall farm holidays consortium in Cumbria publishes a leaflet (copies from the tourist information centres are in Brampton and Hexham.

Marking time: Graham Coggins examines the Temple of Mithras

Station (with brand new £300,000 museum) in the east, and to Carvoran and Birdoswald in the west.

Robin Birley, who taught the Prince of Wales history as package the Romans on the wall for popular consumption at two museums, The Vindolanda Trust, of which he is a director, owns Carvoran Fort, still to be excavated (and with the Fenelaw running across one corner), while his own, adjoining land also nudges the Walltown quarry, opening intriguing questions about the future. But I looked backwards

to the bricks at Housesteads where Roman rebuilding indicates that soldiers moved their families to the once-military buildings within the wall's shadow.

wandered onto Brocolitia, on the south side, where replica altars grace the small temple of Mithras - the real ones are on show in Newcastle. The mix of real, fake and reconstruction gives a strange sensation - what remains has been elaborated so that we can imagine what was.

From large forts and vicus to solitary stretches of wall there's enough uncovered for the Hadrian's Wall complex to entertain for days, and enough still covered to hold sway over archaeologists for generations to come.

Ann Hills

BRIDGE

Don't throw away your defence

Everyone agrees that defence is the most difficult part of the game, and perhaps discarding is the most difficult part of defence. Finding a series of discards can be as daunting for the expert as for the novice, because not only must a defender keep the right cards, but must often do so without allowing declarer to notice his hand.

There is an everyday sort of rule. Bridge, North-South. Cam Dealer South.

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Do you detect the flaw in East's reasoning? The answer lies in assessing whether declarer's line of play is consistent with the defender's conclusions. If South's distribution had been 2-5-2-4, instead of allowing East to obtain the lead with the OQ, he would have returned to his hand with the AQ, cashed the 4J, and ruffed his fourth club in dummy.

On the next hand East had to think more deeply. Rubber Bridge, North-South. Game. Dealer West.

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Rock & jazz records of the month

REVIEW

Frankie say pleasure can pay

Pop music thrives on frivolity and hyperbole - but the pop business in 1984 was not prepared for the jolt to its nervous system that was provided by Frankie Goes To Hollywood.

Although Duran Duran, Wham and Culture Club may be happy to offer calm before the storm, the Frankies are not. Their debut double album, *Welcome To The Pleasuredome*, like the singles "Relax" and "Two Tribes" that preceded it, is a flash of lightning that has thrown most current pop music into hideous perspective.

Frankie, or more precisely the five members of the band, Holly Johnson, Paul Rutherford, Mark O'Toole, Brian Nash and Peter Gill, are to rock'n'roll what *Brookside* is to soap operas and Coca-Cola to fizzy drinks. Their native Liverpudlian savvy, irreverent attitude and love of outrage may have upset the tranquil appercept of daytime radio but their fans love them. *Welcome* had pre-release orders of more than one million copies - and that is before the band has played a live date in this country at a major venue.

The Frankie phenomenon, ingeniously stage-managed by the music journalist Paul Morley and the staff of ZTT, succeeds because it provides a reality which is alien to mainstream pop music. Frankie have had the ingenuity to treat children like adults and vice versa. Who else could have

Frankie Goes To Hollywood: Welcome To The Pleasuredome (ZTT 1Q1)

persuaded a 14-year-old girl in, say, Neath, to wear a tee-shirt proclaiming "Frankie Say Arm The Unemployed"?

Welcome To The Pleasuredome is a masterpiece, produced by that wizard of the mixing desk, Trevor Horn; it sets a new standard in aural entertainment.

Side one is constructed as a lengthy atmospheric tableau: operatic, melodramatic, compulsive and hard. "The World Is My Oyster" and the title track give fair warning of Frankie's preoccupations, which are entirely contemporary. It hardly matters that some people imagine them to have been manipulated by Horn's genius for production. Would The Beatles have succeeded without George Martin? Humility is no virtue in pop music and all parties understand this; Frankie's check knows no bounds. Samuel Taylor Coleridge might have approved their ransacking of Kubla Khan's decree; whether Graham Greene will appreciate their appropriation of the title of his essay on cinema is another matter.

Side two consists of the ultimate mega-mixes of Frankie's demonic disco hits; the sexual thrust of "Relax" and the subversive panic of "Two Tribes" exemplify a band

without peer at a time when nothing in pop seemed new anymore. Their version of the Whitfield/Strong song "War", previously recorded by the Temptations and Edwin Starr, is proof that these five boys who shook the world can play, and that Holly Johnson can sing, extremely well.

Here is a band who want to "go for it" and who aren't afraid to embrace both vulgarity and elegance; side three might be sub-titled "Frankie gives a history lesson". It starts with Gerry Marsden's scouse anthem "Ferry Cross The Mersey" (incidentally Gerry and the Pacemakers are the only band to have had number one hits with each of their first three singles); this side shows where the roots of the band lie.

Frankie deal with Bruce Springsteen's "Born To Run" like heavy rockers, capturing the song's American fantasy in full. The pace slows to ballad tempo as Johnson and the boys pay homage to Dionne Warwick's version of "San Jose", treating Bacharach and David's lyric and melody with the respect they deserve. If any dissenting voices remain this is the track which will silence them.

Most extraordinary of all is the instrumental "Wish (The Lads Were Here)" that closes this section, a brazen parody of Pink Floyd which would not sound out of place on that group's album, *Meddle*.

Finally, side four is "Frankie

goes to glamour school", with four songs that recall the period in the early 1970s when an album like Bowie's *Aladdin Sane* or Roxy Music's *For Your Pleasure* was the yardstick of taste and style, to be queued up for at the local record shop and then savoured at leisure.

Of the four numbers "Krisco Kisses" is the most immediately accessible, with the guitar recalling Mick Ronson and the chirpy lyric revealing another important ingredient in Frankie's recipe: a well-developed sense of humour.

Welcome To The Pleasuredome closes with the band's next single, "The Power Of Love", an overblown tear jerker of a ballad, surely destined to become the star on the top of the Christmas tree chart. Frankie have blazed a trail from sex to horror to true love. *Welcome*'s banquet may be too exotic for taste buds accustomed to the staple diet of conventional pop music, but like The Beatles' *White Album* it will repay repeated listening.

Frankie Goes To Hollywood have been accused of being a hype, of paying lip service to amorality, of fiddling while Rome burns. This is not the case. Pop music only survives if it is original; pop is about noise and excitement, not political judgments. Frankie are like a scream from a crevasse. They are welcome indeed.

Max Bell



Hanky panky: A flash and a fan for (from left) Rutherford, Gill, Johnson, O'Toole and Nash

Gilded wonder boy and golden older men

No musician in the short but crowded history of jazz has received such lavish and sustained backing from a record company as Wynton Marsalis. The trumpeter, now aged 23, came to prominence during his teens as a member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and has subsequently conquered not merely the jazz world but also the citadel of what jazz musicians call "straight music".

Marsalis has come so far so fast that he is already an object of suspicion among those who do not believe that a musician can have anything worthwhile to say unless he has paid his dues in obscurity for the better part of his professional career.

Awards from the American recording industry for his jazz albums and for his recording of trumpet concerti by Mozart, Hummel and Haydn, have simply confirmed the belief of pessimists that what we are witnessing here is not so much the rise of a great jazz musician as the success of a carefully plotted marketing campaign.

Marsalis's latest effort is certain to harden that attitude. After proving his mettle as a small-group player and as an interpreter of the classical trumpet repertoire, he chooses to attempt a series of standard ballads arranged for trumpet and string orchestra, and the apparent conservatism of his decision is breathtakingly audacious. In 1984, after all, 23-year-olds are supposed to be thinking new thoughts, are they

Wynton Marsalis: Hot House Flowers (CBS 26145)
Stan Getz: Albert Dailey: Poetry (Elektra Musician 980 370-1)

not? What is this one doing performing "I'm Confessin'" in front of an orchestra playing an arrangement that would not shock Mantovani?

Having a ball is what he is doing, and that is what the listener will have as he hears Marsalis turn "Lazy Afternoon" into a Moorish meditation of such tension and poignancy that the obvious comparison with Miles Davis and Gil Evans in their Spanish period seems irrelevant. That ravishingly pure tone is turned on John Lewis's "Django", jazz's greatest lament, like a master's brush on a colour-by-numbers canvas; the coda of "Stardust" finds him holding a single lonely note for what seems like minutes as the strings die and fall around him.

In truth, he shines the brighter for the general ordinariness of the arrangements by Robert Freedman. There are echoes of Evans, and even of Eric Dolphy's *African Brass* charts for John Coltrane in "When You Wish on a Star", but mostly a kind of competence is allowed to prevail, only occasionally - as in the plinking and plunking pizzicato punctuations during "For All We-Know", which reminded me of Howard Brubeck's ghastly concerto for quartet and

orchestra - becoming a serious annoyance.

What would Marsalis have done with more adventurous arrangements, such as those created by Eddie Sauter for Stan Getz? That is a question which I hope the future will answer, but it will be asked now by those for whom Marsalis's apparent lack of interest in new forms represents a drawback.

All the great instrumental

soloists of jazz, they reason, have also been involved in important evolutions of the music's structure. Louis Armstrong asserted the primacy of the soloist; Coleman Hawkins led the way into improvisation based on harmony, while Lester Young educated a generation in a more flexible attitude to rhythm; Charlie Parker speeded everything up, and then Miles Davis slowed it down; Ornette

Coleman abolished the signposts of song-form. What, beside this, does Marsalis have to show to prove his greatness?

He need participate in no revolutions to convince many other listeners, including this one, of his remarkable quality. *Hot House Flowers* provides most of the answers.

By virtue of its concentration on melodic values, *Poetry* will provide a similar degree of pleasure - at least, for those to whom a duo of tenor saxophone and piano does not present too forbiddingly ascetic a prospect. Stan Getz is on tremendous form these days, and here he operates at full throttle on such pieces as Parker's "Confirmation". Thad Jones's "A Child Is Born", Gillespie's "Night in Tunisia" and the ballad "Lover Man", playing with fluency, passion and that beautiful tone.

The real point of the session, however, is to expose the fine piano playing of Albert Dailey, who appeared with Getz's quartet in the 1970s and died earlier this year. His sympathetic accompaniment is thrown into sharp relief in this session, recorded in 1983, and one rarely notices the absence of bass or drums; his solo feature, a reading of "Round Midnight", is a fitting epitaph to a musician who, like many others in jazz, deserved wider celebrity. Perhaps it behoves us, then, not to begrudge it when we see it achieved.

Richard Williams



Andacious conservatism: Wynton Marsalis in rehearsal



Still superlative: Stan Getz photographed in 1958

GALLERIES

THE WEEK

Time trip to England's golden age



leak though George Orwell's view of art in 1984 may have been, there has been a cavalcade of shows this year all claiming to be more definitive than the last. "The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art", which opens at the British Museum on Friday, is the second "Golden Age" of the year, after the National Gallery's "Golden Age of Danish Painting". Going one step further back in time from the Romanesque exhibition at the Hayward Gallery this summer, it skillfully attempts to upstage that period as well.

The show is organized by the British Museum and British Library, working together in a trace which sounds rocky in itself. "We thought of having it some time ago, and suggested it to the museum", says Janet Backhouse, one of the organizers at the library, "but I expect by now they think it's all their idea". There is one point on which the two parties agree, that this is the last period of England's fine, indigenous style before it became tarnished for ever by foreigners with 1066 and the coming of the Romanesque.

The exhibition celebrates the 1,000th anniversary of the death of Aethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, and the centrepiece will be his magnificent Benedictional, from which we take our initial letter (above). It comes from the British Library collection and can be seen with sculpture, ivories and metalwork from 966-1066, a period never covered by an exhibition before.

Many of the names featured come right out of the mists of English mythology: King Alfred (whose famous Jewel can be seen in the prologue section, on loan from the Ashmolean Museum), King Canute, and Aethelred the Unready. It is often the way of history, however, that the less-known names preside over the most productive periods. King Edgar, for example, who ruled

wisely and peacefully from 959 to 975, had three remarkable bishops: Aethelwold, Oswald and Dunstan, all great patrons of the arts.

Five years after Edgar's death, under a monarch who is more famous today, Aethelred the Unready, the country was invaded once more by the Vikings. Most of the artifacts on show are religious and show a distinctive taste for lively, decorative pattern-making. In the manuscripts in particular, the modern eye, familiar with newspaper cartoons, can find much that is amusing: a sinner-eyed Christ, for example, peering out from behind a twitching arras, presumably in order to lend inspiration to the saint who sits with thoughtful expression and quill poised. The scribe Eadvi (known by name because he had the habit of signing his work) is seen eagerly prostrate before St Benedict, wearing a belt labelled "zona humilitatis", or "girdle of humility".

The Harley Psalter (1010-1030) is particularly charming, packed with pictures as crowded as the chorus at the opera. Angels and men all have outsize hands which appear to wave. Al Jolson-style, and Leviathan has a corkscrew tail.

Equally amusing is a rare secular manuscript on the life of Queen Emma, wife of Aethelred the Unready. It is clearly an exercise in sycophancy, complimenting her at every turn.

The York Minster gospel book is, according to Miss Backhouse "alive and well and living in the twentieth century". The present Archbishop of Canterbury used it recently, and it will have to leave the exhibition temporarily in December to carry out its job.

Sarah Jane Checkland

"The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art" is at the British Museum (636 1955) from Friday until March 10, 1985, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm.

Openings

BRITISH RAIL PENSION FUNDS Pictures: Thirty-five major paintings collected not for love but for investment, between 1974 and 1980. Includes works by Brueghel, Rubens, Gainsborough, Monet, and Picasso. Thomas Agnew and Sons, 43 Old Bond Street, London W1 (629 6176). Opens Thurs. until Dec 14, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Thurs 9.30am-7pm.

WILLIAM TURNER OF OXFORD: Chance to assess "the other Turner" in a touring exhibition organized by the Oxfordshire County Museum Services. Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (022 7821). Opens Tues. until Dec 2, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-6pm.

MICHAEL KIDNER: Retrospective of paintings, drawings and sculpture from 1952-1984. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 8875). Opens tomorrow, until Dec 2, daily 10am-6pm.

Selected

THE BRITISH ART SHOW: Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square (021 2352834). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm; and the Ikon Gallery, 86-72 John Bright Street (021 6430708). Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. An attempt to summarize all that has been seminal in British art over the last five years. Includes Anthony Caro and Richard Wentworth but not Bridget Riley or David Mach.

MIDLAND VIEW 3 Midland Group Arts Centre, Carlton Street, Hockley, Nottingham (0602 582636). Until Nov 17, Tues-Fri 11am-7.30pm, Sat 10am-5.30pm. Large exhibition selected from an open submission, demonstrating the quality of current work by artists living in the Midlands.

Witness the homecoming of Agamemnon through the Lion Gate at Mycenae.

As you walk under the huge blocks of the Lion Gate, it's easy to picture the king's return from Troy after ten long years of war.

Unfortunately, the welcome awaiting him was less than warm. Along with beautiful Cassandra (whom he'd rescued from the sack of Troy), he was bloodily murdered by the lover of his wife Clytemnestra. The Gods, however, would not let such treachery go unpunished.

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Photography

RPS ANNUAL Kodak Museum, High Holborn, London WC1 (405 7841). Until Dec 8, Mon-Fri 9am-4.45pm. The Royal Photographic Society's 128th annual international exhibition is its usual hotchpotch of romantic landscapes, moody portraits and stylish colour prints, mostly rather uninspiring.

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHS Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (589 6323). Until Jan 4, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm. On show are the results of the wildlife photographic competition organized by various sponsors, and with a stunning winner. Amateurs and professionals demonstrate what can be achieved with determination and concentration.

ROADS... TO WIGAN PIER Impressions Gallery, 17 Collierygate, York (0904 54724). Until Dec 1, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. Social aspects of life in the north of England from six young photographers who take as their starting point Orwell's *The Road to Wigan Pier*; mining communities, canal dwellers, one-parent families are featured among the 100 black-and-white prints.

MANCHESTER FOOTBALL Manchester Studies, Cavendish House, Cavendish Street, Manchester (061 228 6171). Until Nov 23, Mon-Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-5pm. Press and studio photographs plus material drawn from the Manchester Studies Archive, documents the growth of football in Manchester from 1880 to 1939.

Michael Young

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THE WEEK

Sport

KICKING OFF: The Australian Rugby Union team play the first international of their tour against England at Twickenham this afternoon. The Wallabies have made an uncertain start, losing to Cardiff, but have the potential to stretch an experimental England side with five new caps including scrum half and skipper, Nigel Melville. The match kicks off at 2.30pm and is covered live in *Grandstand* on BBC1.

BIG HITTERS: Anxious to erase the memory of his knockout by James "Bonecrusher" Smith, British heavyweight boxing hope Frank Bruno takes on another American, "Jolting" Jeff Jordan, at the Albert Hall, Jordan also paces a punch, having finished 11 of his 18 opponents within the distance. The fight is on Tues, highlights in *Sportsnight*, BBC1, Wed, 10.20-11.15pm.

FIRST SERVICE: Thirty-two of the world's leading men tennis players, including John McEnroe, Ivan Lendl and Jimmy Connors, are competing for prize money of £176,000 (£235,340 to the winner) in the Benson and Hedges tournament which starts on Tues at noon, with the final on Nov 11 at 2pm, Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (box office 902 1234). Television coverage starts on BBC1 on Wed in *Sportsnight*, 10.20-11.15pm.

SECOND LEGS: The second round of the three European football competitions are being played on Wed. Liverpool, holders of the European Cup, go to Portugal with a 3-1 lead over Benfica; Tottenham Hotspur are at home to Brugge with a 1-2 deficit; and Manchester United start 0-0 against PSV Eindhoven at Old Trafford. *Midweek Sports Special*, ITV, 10.35pm-12.05am.

Auctions

IRISH REPRO: When Joseph McGrath, the founder of Waterford glass and a distinguished Irish nationalist politician, bought Caneby House near Dublin in 1933 he employed the leading Dublin cabinetmaker James Hicks



Traditional transport: The Queen in the Irish State Coach on her way to Parliament and a 1900 Napier on the road to Brighton (see Other events)

to furnish it for him. Christie's are selling the contents of Caneby for the McGraths. Christie's at Caneby House, Co Dublin (0001 893154). Viewing today 9.30 am-5.30pm. Sale Mon and Tues at 11am.

SCHOOL FOR SALE: The remaining contents of the Convent School opened at Summers Place, Billingshurst, in 1945 by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary are to be sold on Tues - poignant offerings that echo the world of Angela Brazil, including quantities of pine flap-top desks, a vaulting horse, four netball posts, five upright pianos (estimates £240-£120) and a quantity of open-backed pine pews with integral kneelers.

Schibby's at the Convent School, Summers Place, Billingshurst, West Sussex (040381 2983). Viewing today 9am-noon, Mon 10am-4pm. Sale Tues at 10.30am.

RARE STAMPS: Some of the world's rarest stamps - Sicilian - make up a £300,000 sale of a renowned private collection. The Kingdom of Sicily enjoyed its own

stamps for just 18 months in the late 1800s, hence their rarity. One stamped envelope is estimated at £10,000.

COLLECTING TWENTIETH CENTURY: The furniture, porcelain silver and glass of the last 80 years is now keenly collected but it is often hard to tell the "priceless antiques" from the junk. This sale, entitled "The Modern Movement, to include Art Nouveau and Art Deco" demonstrates what is valuable and its worth, from old friends such as Lalique and Clarice Cliff to a startling pair of sedges shaped as boxing gloves, and modernist hand-knotted carpets. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060). Viewing Mon, Tues and Wed 9am-4.45pm. Sale Thurs at 11am and 2.30pm.

Radio

NO COMPLAINTS: The black

American novelist, James Baldwin, who celebrated his sixtieth birthday this year, interviewed from his home in France about his life and influences. The discussion includes a look-back to his early novels, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* and *Giovanni's Room*, which made such an impact on their first publication in the 1950s. Radio 4, today, 10.15-11pm.

MASTERS OF THE INDIA: The ambitious dramatization of John Masters' sequence of novels about India under the Raj reaches *The Nightingale* of Bengal. Michael Cochrane plays Roderick Savage, who ignores the dire warnings of the Ignorance Guru and comes under the spell of the Raj. The Anglo-Indian cast also includes Carole Boyd, Eva Hagen, Souad Faress and Madhav Sharma. Radio 4, tomorrow, 9.02-10pm.

GOD ON THE WHITE HOUSE ROAD: An investigation by Rosemary Hargrave, the BBC religious affairs correspondent, into the part being played by religion in the American Presidential election. She talks to

voters in Washington, New York, Chicago, Little Rock and the Midwest. Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11pm.

VINTAGE CIDER: Cider with Rosie, Laurie Lee's vivid picture of his childhood in a Cotswold village, was published 25 years ago. It has become a classic of modern literature and sold more than two million copies. In the first of two programmes tracing the origins of the book, Marjorie Lofthouse talks to Lee's sister, Marjorie, about their shared childhood and to publishers and critics. Radio 4, Tues, 4.02-4.40pm.

A FROTH ON REALITY: In the first of his six Reith Lectures under the title, *Minds, Brains and Science*, the American philosopher Professor John Searle explores our common-sense notions of ourselves and offers his thoughts on that old philosophical chestnut - the connection between mind and brain. Radio 4, Wed, 7.45-8.15pm; repeated on Radio 3 on Nov 11, 10.30-11pm.

Other events

OFF CAMERA: Exhibition of the favourite outfits of the famous, including Pamela Stephenson's bikini bottom, Barbara Cartland's shockingpink gown, Toyah Wilcox's Egyptian print tunic and Zandra Rhodes's evening dress which she designed herself. There are garments, too, from Judi Dench, Glenda Jackson and David Bailey. Barbican Centre, Barbican, London EC2 (638 4141). Opens today, until Dec 3. Free.

LONDON TO BRIGHTON RUN: Prince Michael of Kent in a 1902 Wolseley and two former American Formula One drivers, Dan Gurney and Phil Hill, are among the record 330 participants in this year's commemorative run for veteran (pre-1905) cars. Vehicles set off from Serpentine Park, Hyde Park, London, tomorrow at 8am and must be in Brighton by 4pm to qualify for a finisher's plaque.

Fireworks

Gay Fawkes Night is on Monday, but some celebrations are being held this evening. The following is a selection:

Today

Sidcup: High fire-diver Don Lindburgh jumps at 6.30, 7.30 and 8pm; fireworks at 7.30pm; also funfair, King George's Playing Fields, Longlands Road, Sidcup, Kent. Adults £2, children 75p. **Beaulieu:** Fireworks Fair, with lighting of the bonfire topped by 12ft Guy at 6.30pm; comedy trampolines act; country and western music; best Guy competition. Adults £2, children £1 (including admission to the National Motor Museum). Beaulieu, Hampshire.

Tomorrow

Edmonton: Funfair, steel band and marching bands. 4pm, fireworks 6.15pm. Picketts Lock Centre, Edmonton, London N9. Adults £1.50, children £1.

Monday

Wandsworth: Bonfire 7pm, fireworks 7.30pm; jazz band and clowns from 6.30pm. Battersea Park, London SW11. Free. **Alexandra Park:** Fireworks at 8pm; Bavarian band, traditional food and licensed bars. Alexandra Pavilion, Wood Green, London N22. Adults 50p, children and pensioners free.

Lewes: Torchlit processions from 5.30pm; bonfires and fireworks displays, blazing tar barrel hurled into the River Ouse. Lewes, East Sussex. Free. **Obert St Mary:** Carnival procession through the town from 7.30pm, followed by traditional rolling of flaming tar-coated barrels at 8.15pm. Obert St Mary, near Horton, Devon. Free.

Edinburgh: Firework display, pipe band and clowns. Meadowbank Stadium, London Road, Stand E1.75, ground 75p. **Cardiff:** Gates open 5.45pm; bonfire lit 6.45pm; fireworks display 7pm. Cooper's Field, Butte Park, Cardiff. Adults 50p (80p and 40p in advance).

FILMS

An eclipse that came too soon

The British premiere of Eric Rohmer's *Full Moon in Paris* has inevitably been overshadowed by the sudden death last week of its leading actress, Pascale Ogier, from heart failure at the age of 24. She had planned to come to London for the opening.

Pascale Ogier was the daughter of Bulle Ogier, also an actress and known here for films like *Bonnie and Clyde*. She met Eric Rohmer in 1979 while she was a university student and he gave her a small part in his film, *Perceval de Galles*.

Stage and television work followed, and a film for Jacques Rivette. Last year she spent three months in London shooting - in English - *Ghost Dance*, a co-production between the German television company, ZDF, and Channel 4; then she went back to Rohmer for *Full Moon in Paris*.

Unusually she not only took the leading part but also designed the sets. The character she plays, Louise, is an interior designer furnishing her own pied-à-terre, so Pascale Ogier's work on the sets was a logical extension of her interpretation of the role.

Full Moon in Paris is the fourth in Rohmer's series of "Comedies and Proverbs" (an allusion to the collected plays of



Full of promise: Pascale Ogier, who died last week

Alfred de Musset) and takes as its text a proverb from the *Champion des Dames*: "A man with two women loses his soul, a man with two homes loses his mind".

For the purposes of the film, though, it is best to reverse the sexes. It is Louise who has the two homes; she also has two men, with others likely to crop up at any time. The film charts her shifts from one man, and one home, to the other. Her dilemma is that she wants the constant attention of the opposite sex but at the same time values her independence

and solitude. That is why she gets herself a pied-à-terre, as well as keeping on the flat in the Paris suburbs which she shares with a constant companion.

She enjoys the company, too, of a married man who is in love with her, she regards him as no more than a friend and escort. The delicate balance is upset when she has an impetuous affair with a third man (played by Christian Vadim, son of Roger Vadim and Catherine Deneuve).

All this is realized in Rohmer's characteristically spare and elegant style, confirming him as the cinema's leading minimalist. Like his previous films, *Full Moon in Paris* is, in the director's words, "less about what people do than what is going on in their minds while they do it".

It is also Pascale Ogier's film. Slim and dark, with large, expressive eyes, she was a talent extinguished too soon. Her Louise, which won the best actress award at the Venice Film Festival, seemed only the start of a brilliant career; now, sadly, it must stand as her memorial.

Peter Waymark

Full Moon in Paris (15) opens on Thurs at the Chelsea Cinema (351 3742) and the Camden Plaza (465 2443).

Openings

RED DAWN (15): The story of a group of American teenagers who take to the hills when the Russians invade, and their attempt both to survive and to defend their land. Directed by John Milius and starring Patrick Swayze and C. Thomas Howell. From Fri at the Leicester Square Theatre (830 5522).

HAMSHIN (15): Daniel Wachsmann's film about the pressures and divisions caused by the Israeli government's expropriation of the West Bank. The effects on the personal lives of one small community are illustrated by the strain imposed on a Jewish landowner's relationship with his Arab friend and employee. From Fri at the Phoenix, East Finchley (883 2233).

WOODY ALLEN: The first British retrospective, covering all 13 films he has directed from *Take the Money and Run* (1969) to *Broadway Danny Rose*, released from Fri until Nov 30 at the Barbican Centre Cinema (633 4141).

Selected

PRIVATE LIVES (PG): Phoenix, East Finchley (883 2233). Excellent film from veteran Soviet director Yuri Raizman, about a factory manager (Michael Yelchin) whose enforced retirement leaves him exposed to relationships and problems he has never experienced. A sardonic look at the workings of Soviet society, and a brilliantly economical piece of filmmaking.

NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR (15): Odeon Haymarket (830 2738). Michael Radford's version of Orwell's totalitarian satire dunks the politics and never overcomes the novel's lack of dramatic action. It scores good marks, however, for two lead performances (John Hurt, Richard Briers). Late cinema for conjuring up a vision of the future with an eerie 1940s ambience.

KAOS (15): Arthouse One (437 2981). Paolo and Vittorio Taviani's epic, majestic film based on Pirandello's collection of tall stories about bandits, werewolves, pickle jars, and other strange aspects of Sicilian life. The action occasionally drowns, but the imagery is magical.

LONDON FILM FESTIVAL: Runs from Nov 15 to Dec 2. Postal booking is now open for members of the British Film Institute only; public booking starts on Fri. National Film Theatre, South Bank, Waterloo, London SE1 (828 3232).

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

OPERA

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, London WC2 (836 3161). John Cox's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's heavily satirical *Pastime* revived after its recent success in the United States, tonight and Fri at 7.30pm. Graham Vick's controversial production of *Madam Butterfly* can be seen on Wed and Nov 10 at 7.30pm while Northern Miller's glittering *Arabella*, revived by David Pountney, is on Thurs at 7pm.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Covent Garden, London WC1 (240 1068). Nicola Giuselevich sings Godunov in two more performances, on Wed at 6.30pm and Nov 10 at 7pm of Andrei Tarkovsky's production of Boris Godunov, conducted by James Lockhart. Both replace artists whose permission to work here has been revoked by the Soviet authorities. And tonight and on Tues and Fri at 7pm there are chances - the last of the season - to see Michael Gallo's production of *Carmen*, with its starry cast led by Teresa Berganza.

GLYNDEBOURNE TOURING OPERA: Theatre Royal, Royal Parade, Plymouth (0762 669595); Palace Theatre, Oxford Street, Manchester (061 238 9922). Glyndebourne's national tour ends its week in Plymouth tonight at 7.30pm with the still unfinished *Higglety Pigglety Pop!* and *Where the Wild Things Are*. Manchester next week with Sir Peter Hall's *La Traviata* and *La Bohème*, revived by Lucy Bailey and Roger Williams, from Tues-Fri at 7pm on alternate nights. The Knussen/Sandak double bill returns on Nov 10 at 5pm and 8.15pm.

KENT OPERA: Peas Hill, Cambridge (0223 352000). The Orchard, Home Gardens, Darford (0222 73311). Nicholas Hytner's memorable production of *King Priam* takes place in Cambridge tonight at 7.30pm. Then the company arrives back on home territory with Hytner's *Figaro on Tour*, *King Priam* on Fri and finally Norman Platt's *The Soraglio* on Nov 10, all performances at 7.15pm.

HANDEL OPERA: Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (278 8916). Handel Opera perform the neglected *Imeneo* on Wed and Fri at 7.30pm and with the relatively popular *Radamisto* tonight and Tues, Thurs, and Nov 10 at 7.30pm. Charles Farncombe conducts.

OPERA NORTH: New Theatre, Kingston Square, Hull (0482 20463). Theatre Royal, Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne (202 322211). *Neleuco* in tonight at 7.15pm and on Newcastle on Tues and Nov 10 at 7.15pm. Elgar Howarth conducts. *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* take to the stage in Tyneside on Wed and Fri at 7.15pm. The New Opera Company's realization of Krenak's notorious jazz-opera *Johnny Strikes Up* can be seen in Newcastle on Thurs at 7.15pm.

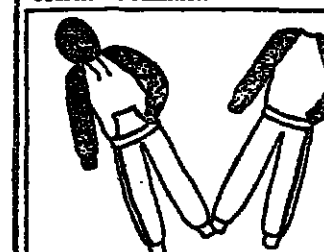
The week compiled by Peter Waymark: Theatre: Anthony Masters; Opera: Stephen Pettit

THE TIMES LEISURE AND TRACK SUIT OFFER

The growing legions of Keep Fit enthusiasts have brought about an increasing demand for new, comfortable sports and leisure wear.

We have selected two high quality garments that have been designed for The Times readers by Mr President, the originator of the classic American leisure suits. Both styles have traditional "westward" grey body and trousers with deep rayon sleeves and trouser stripe in navy blue. The track suit has a navy blue hood with draw-strings, stretch cuffs and waist-band and a front pocket that will double as a hand warmer. The leisure suit has deep stretch-knit crew neck, cuffs and waistband - both tops have the title of THE TIMES newspaper printed in soft navy blue flock on the left-hand breast.

The trousers are the same for both outfits, grey body with navy blue stripe, drawstring waist and elasticated ankles. All garments are made of 50% cotton, 50% crease resistant and are fully machine washable. The inside surfaces have a soft fleecy lining that is warm in the winter and cool in the summer.



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THEATRE

A good tale of who, what and where

Oliver Goldsmith always claimed that the plot for *She Stoops to Conquer*, involving mistaken identities of both people and place, was based on an incident in his youth in Ireland when he was directed to a private house believing it to be an inn.

He ordered food and wine at this "inn", and it was provided by the family of their local squire, owner of the house. Goldsmith discovered his embarrassing situation when he asked for his bill the following morning.

Giles Block, who directs a new production of the play which opens at the Lyttelton Theatre on Thursday, takes the view that the story was more likely the product of Goldsmith's fertile imagination, told as a good tale likely to amuse Dr Johnson and others whose company he kept in London. True or not, it inspired the plot of one of the "most wonderful" of English comedies.

She Stoops to Conquer, enormously successful since its first performance in 1773, is a favourite in provincial theatres but has been rarely performed in London in recent years, and this production too began out of London.

It is the National Theatre's touring production, which normally opens in the London repertoire and then goes out on tour. As an experiment this year, it was decided to present a play specially for touring. It has already visited Bath, Norwich, Wolverhampton, Canterbury, Plymouth and Leeds, and after a week in London it goes out again to Cardiff, Manchester and Nottingham before returning to the National.

Block, who became an NT staff director in 1977, and has been director of platforms since 1981, tried to find a play with the widest possible appeal, and Goldsmith's masterpiece fitted his bill perfectly.

He found it difficult to tackle at first, since he had played in it himself, had seen it several times and consequently found a new approach elusive. "Then I settled down to read all his works and about his life, and the more I read, the more I realized that the play was about his early life. There is a lot of Goldsmith in Tony Lumpkin and Marlow, and the relationships of the characters recall those of his own family. It is a wonderful story and the play gains strength from the well observed characters."

In preview

ANNIE WOBBLER: West End debut for a 1983 production seen in Birmingham and at New End, Hampstead. Nicholas McAuliffe in three short one-woman plays, written for her by Arnold Wesker, also directs. Annie Wobblers shows an old East End lady, cleaner for a Jewish family; Anna is a student preparing for a date; Annabella Wharton is a successful novelist preparing for a newspaper interview.

Fortune Theatre, Russell Street, London WC2 (836 2238). Previews from Wed at 8pm, Nov 10 and 11 at 5.30pm, Nov 12 at 8pm. Opens Nov 13 at 7.30pm. No part Nov 18.

Openings

BLOODY POETRY: Co-production by Foco Novo and Leicester Haymarket (where the play was first seen in Sept) is a new Howard Searn piece which examines the relationship between Byron and Shelley, the second Mrs Shelley and Byron's mistress, Claire Clairmont. Roland Rees directs. James Aubrey, William Gaminara.

MOTHER COURAGE: Judi Dench as the cantankerous woman of the title, in Brecht's prophetic 1938 study of humanity's inability to learn the lessons of war. Howard Davies directs.

Barbican, London EC2 (828 8795/638 8881). Previews today, Mon and Tues at 7.30pm, Press night Wed at 7pm, Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm. In repertory.



Rattled reader: Dora Bryan is taken by surprise

The play is full of richly drawn characters, and the cast includes Dora Bryan (Mrs Hardcastle) and Hywel Bennett (Marlow), making their first appearances with the National. Tom Baker (Mr Hardcastle), who was a National player in the Old Vic days, and Tony Haygarth (Tony Lumpkin). "I wanted to cast people who

would be smashing in the parts, and the bonus is that they are also well known throughout the country". Block says.

Christopher Warman

She Stoops to Conquer, Lyttelton (828 2252). Previews tonight, Mon, Tues, Wed at 7.45pm. Opens Thurs at 7pm, Fri and Sat at 7.45pm, matinees Wed and Sat at 3pm.

Selected

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS: Cottesloe, National Theatre (828 2252). Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. David Mamet's menacing account of the shark-eat-sprat world of American real-estate men has a resonance that spreads wide; a cast including Jack Shepherd in top form do it justice.

A LITTLE HOTEL ON THE SIDE: Aveline, National Theatre (828 2252). Wed-Fri at 7.15pm; matinee Thurs at 2pm. In repertory. Uproarious and (thanks to John Mortimer's translation) surprisingly witty version of the Feydeau farce better known as *Hotel Paradiso*, with Graeme Garden as a sly bourgeois adulterer, Deborah Norton as a marital dragon.

PASSION PLAY: Wyndham's (836 3028). Until Nov 24, Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 8 and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 3pm. Witty, sad and dazzlingly intricate, Peter Nichols's award-winning 1981 play about unwilling adultery. Stars Leslie Phillips.

Out of Town

STRATFORD: Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295223). Richard III. Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory. Anthony Sher, Patricia Routledge, directed by Bill Alexander. The Merchant of Venice. Today. Final new production of the season: Barry Kyle directs. Hamlet. Today at 1.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 1.30pm. In repertory. Roger Rees, Brian Blessed. Virginia McKenna. Frances Barber directed by Ron Daniels.

Henry V. Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory. Kenneth Branagh, with Cécile Paoli, Bernard Horstall, Sebastian Shaw, directed by Adrian Noble. Youth Festival at The Other Place. Bookings by post only (enquiries 0789 295225 ext 18). Mon-Nov 17. Thirty-seven sessions including plays, workshops and discussions on the Shakespeare repertoire.

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Sphinx-like Rowland walks away from Harrods

It is hard to overestimate the significance of yesterday afternoon's announcement that Lorrho has sold its 29.9 per cent stake in House of Fraser, the nationwide department stores group which boasts Harrods of Knightsbridge as the jewel in its crown. A six-year battle of unprecedented bitterness has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion for all sides, as was duly reflected in the rise in both companies' share prices in the wake of the news.

Lorrho's explanation of its decision is all too easy to understand. On Wednesday it learned that the Mo opies and Mergers Commission had been given leave to extend its investigation into House of Fraser for another three months. Mr Paul Spicer, a Lorrho director, has described this as the last straw: it must have been like running 25 miles of a marathon, only to be told the course had been extended by an extra five miles.

Unbeknown to the world at large, an offer was lying on the table from the immensely rich Egyptian Al-Fayed family which would take Lorrho out at a respectable profit. The temptation to pick up that offer has in the event proved irresistible.

There have been signs for several months that Mr Rowland "Tiny" Rowland, Lorrho's chief executive and dominating influence, was willing to consider a face-saving deal. Thanks to the at times unbelievably determined resistance put up by Professor Roland Smith, House of Fraser's chairman, the situation had reached a stalemate with no prospect of conclusion.

The conflict was taking up a disproportionate amount of management time on both sides, and both companies were being prevented from reaching their natural objectives. In the end, a prize which had originally seemed to be worth almost any sacrifice had come to be hardly worth the candle.

The outcome for Lorrho is straightforward. Mr Rowland has exchanged his thwarted ambitions for £138.5m of cash which is already earning interest. It will help to offset the company's net debt of £567m. But in the longer run it is likely that Mr Rowland, whose energy has never been in doubt, has identified some more interesting potential havens for such a sum. The early indications were that his eyes were turned towards the US.

In contrast, Lorrho's departure leaves a number of questions over the future of House of Fraser. For the first time since the days of Lord Fraser of Allander, the company is in the hands of strong and unshackled management. It can now have no excuse for not improving the performance of Fraser's sleeper provincial outlets, and there is no reason to suppose otherwise. Above all, they can sorely their wings at the strategic level. One possibility must be that the present tentative trading link with Hambro Life will be consolidated into something considerably closer, perhaps even a full merger.

Hambro Life's Mr Mark Weinberg would be a considerable asset as the retail sector stands on the verge of a revolution in the marketing of financial services.

The questions must surround the eventual intentions of the Al-Fayed family towards their investment in House of Fraser. They have described it as a long-term investment, but that is an over-used and oft-betrayed phrase in the world of bids and deals. Although they have held some investments for long periods and they have a business background stretching back for a century, they have also been known to play pass the parcel. Most notably, this happened nearly 10 years ago



End of a pipe-dream: Tiny Rowland loses the Fraser battle

when they exchanged a large stake in Costain, the British construction group, for a holding in Lorrho and a place on the Lorrho board. That Lorrho stake was later passed on to Gulf Fisheries.

Meanwhile, two of the Al-Fayeds are becoming Fraser directors and they look forward to working with the board to develop the company. That, for the time being, is reassurance enough for Professor Smith in his hour of liberation.

Sailing into uncharted waters

An accountant is an accountant is an accountant, to misquote Gertrude Stein, except of course when he is chartered. Then he acquires a status approaching that of a protected species. At least this is the impression with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales gave yesterday, in reaction to the news that its arch-rivals, the Association of Certified Accountants, had been granted the right by the Privy Council to prefix its name with the word "chartered".

It would seem that although the association as a body can call itself chartered, the individual members cannot. Any certified accountant caught taking the word "chartered" in vain has been threatened with a fine. The association (or Chartered Association, as it is now known) has gone to great lengths to reassure its chartered brethren that this abuse will be actively discouraged among its members. A spokesman said soothingly yesterday: "Some of our members are quite happy to be called certified".

This appreciation of the sanctity of the chartered accountant doubtless helped the Chartered Association's case for the name change when it was heard by the Privy Council. When the Institute of Cost and Managements made a similar attempt last year to change its name to the Institute of Chartered Management Accountants, the request was turned down.

Although the institute has a Royal Charter the suspicion that a chartered management accountant might be mistaken for a bona fide chartered accountant was enough to ensure rejection.

As if to emphasize the distinction, the English, Scottish and Irish institutes of chartered accountants have just formed a committee of cooperation where they will discuss matters of mutual interest. Several old jokes come to mind.

Pound closes above \$1.25 against weakening dollar

By David Smith Economics Correspondent

Hopes of a base rate cut next week were raised yesterday as sterling made further ground against a weak dollar, and the authorities announced a £1 billion tap of gilt-edged stock.

The pound gained 2½ cents against the dollar to close at \$1.2535 in London, its highest closing level since September 24. The sterling index rose 0.7 to 75.7.

The dollar was generally weak in thin markets. It lost 4.8 pence against the Deutsche mark to close at DM2.9440, while the yen advanced from ¥244.1 to ¥241.7 against the dollar.

The dollar's fall occurred as the foreign exchange markets absorbed the news of a \$2.5 billion fall in the US money supply in the latest reporting week, announced after trading had closed in New York.

Yesterday's decline meant

that the dollar has fallen nearly 10 pence against the Deutsche mark in two days.

In London, money markets were encouraged by sterling's strength against the dollar and the fact that the pound held up well against the European currencies, gaining 90 points against the Deutsche mark to DM3.69.

Money market rates were softer, the key three-month interbank rate slipping to 10½ - 10¾, from 10¾ - 10½ the previous night.

Dealers said that if next Tuesday's money supply figures from the Bank of England are good, there will be room for a base rate cut.

Some dealers talked of the possibility of a 1 per cent reduction in base rates from the present 10.5 per cent, although the consensus was that the cut

would be half a point or three-quarters at the outside, which would take the rate below the psychologically important 10 per cent level.

The expectation is that the money supply figures will show a rise of between ½ and ¾ per cent in the sterling M3 measure of money, in banking October which would take annualized growth back within the official 6 to 10 per cent target range.

Heavy activity in sterling certificates of deposit, a normal prelude to a base rate reduction, was in evidence in the money markets yesterday.

The weaker dollar has come about as the foreign exchange markets have discounted a victory in next Tuesday's presidential election by Mr Reagan, and started to look beyond that victory.

Lower US interest rate

expectations for the immediate future have also brought down the dollar. However, dealers said that it was too early to see whether the dollar had started a sustained depreciation.

Economic statistics published yesterday had little impact in financial markets. The official reserves of the United Kingdom fell by an underlying \$32m in October to \$15,355m, suggesting that the Bank of England did not intervene in the markets in support of the pound.

The US unemployment figures showed the October rate at 7.4 per cent, the same as in September. The total number unemployed was 8.43m, compared with 9.9m a year earlier. Civilian employment grew by 347,000 in October to reach 105.59 million.

Tempos, page 23

New Owen attack on JMB rescue

By Jonathan Davis Business Correspondent

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, returned to the dispute over the Johnson Matthey Bankers rescue yesterday with another sharp attack on the Bank of England's role in arranging the rescue.

In a second letter to the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, accusing him of supplying "evasive and disingenuous" answers about the affair, Dr Owen says the Bank has failed to dispel suspicions about the viability of the rescued bank and its subsidiaries.

"The Bank claims that it knew for more than a year that JMB Ltd was getting into difficulties, but if so, why did it not examine the JMB balance sheet long before the actual collapse?"

"Instead, the Bank is currently attempting to conceal its mistakes and convince an increasingly sceptical City audience that public money will not be used and lost in a futile effort to turn round a failed company and its subsidiaries."

Dr Owen says he understands that the Bank asked JMB's parent company Johnson Matthey plc to give an unlimited guarantee of its subsidiary as a condition of the rescue, contrary to Mr Lawson's assertion that no form of guarantee was given. The £50m cash injection by Johnson Matthey was the price the Bank demanded for buying off the liability of this guarantee.

Dr Owen also claims that "all the available evidence" suggests that the Bank is wrong to say that prospects for the future viability of JMB's bullion activities are better than is thought. The Bank's refusal to answer key questions about JMB's loan book and trading prospects only serves to heighten suspicion about the viability of the company, he says.

In his reply to Dr Owen's original letter this week, Mr Lawson reiterated that the rescue was entirely the Bank's own affair, and said he had little doubt that "important lessons" would be drawn from the failure of JMB.

Dr Owen said, however, that Mr Lawson and, by implication, the Government was attempting to distance themselves from the Bank's actions.

Star chamber seeks further £1bn saving

By Our Economics Correspondent

Lord Whitelaw's ministerial 'star chamber' appointed to rein back public spending for next year to the Treasury's targets, has made some progress this week. However, a gap of £1 billion - £1.5 billion remains.

The star chamber will have one more session with the main spending ministers early next week, before public spending goes before the full Cabinet on Thursday.

The star chamber has had further sessions with Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, and the excess bid from the Ministry of Defence is now below £200m. This gap is largely as a result of differences of opinion on inflation factors next year.

Electricity and gas prices, and the question of whether a "Scargill surcharge" should be applied to fuel bills from next April, remain to be resolved. Mr Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, has argued that any such surcharge should be decided only when the strike is over.

The Treasury has pressed for a decision now, arguing that the miners' strike has already resulted in considerable costs, and that, as Mr Nigel Lawson, the £13.6 billion planning total for the Chancellor, pointed out this week, public sector borrowing in 1984/85 could be boosted by £1.5 billion.

The full Cabinet will then have the choice of imposing spending reductions on departments, or reducing the Treasury's £3.75 billion contingency reserve and boosting the £2 billion asset sales target for 1985/86. Through this means, the £13.6 billion planning total for spending should be achieved.



Michael Heseltine: Excess bid for defence reduced

Telecom trading may be delayed

By Our Business Correspondent

Protests from jobbers are likely if the Stock Exchange presses ahead with proposals to delay the start of dealings in British Telecom shares until 3pm on the first day.

City sources said yesterday the Stock Exchange had agreed to delay the start of dealings in London in order to ensure they would begin simultaneously in New York. In return, the Stock Exchange is said to have agreed to extend the official Stock Exchange hours by three hours to allow for the heavy buying and selling expected when BT shares are traded for the first time.

The jobbers say this will allow brokers to cream off some of their profits by matching buyers and sellers in BT shares in unofficial "grey dealing".

A Stock Exchange spokesman said last night it was too early for a final decision, but acknowledged the possibility of a delayed start. In a separate announcement yesterday, the Stock Exchange said BT shares would not be included in the FT All-Share index until the second day. Applications to buy BT shares have to be in by November 28. First dealings are expected to begin on December 3.

Markets stay firm

Markets maintained their firm showing yesterday, with gilts, equities and sterling registering advances. New York was subdued after Thursday's good performance.

The FT 30-share index ended up 10.7 points at 907.6, about two points down on opening level, but still reflecting increased optimism over market rate cuts. Market report, page 22

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1188.6 up 10.2 (high: 1171.5; low: 1165.2)
FT Index: 907.6 up 10.7
FT All Shares: 82.28 up 0.92
FT All Shares N/A
Bargains: 19.445
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 105.30 up 1.19
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest) 1220.52 up 3.43
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,249.55 up 60.89
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1,035.25 up 59.87
Amsterdam: 179.2 up 0.5
Sydney: AO Index 766.1 up 11.6
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1086.7 up 66.7
Brussels: General Index closed
Paris: CAC Index closed
Zurich: SKA General 317.20 up 2.70

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling Index 75.7 up 0.7 (range 75.7-75.4)
\$1.2535 up 2.25 cents
DM 3.69 up 0.0090
FrF 11.32 up 0.0350
Yen 303.50 up 2.60
Dollar Index 138.8 down 1.9
DM 2.9440 down 0.0480

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.2485
Dollar DM 2.9530
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.60369
SDR £0.81697

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10%
Finance houses base rate 11
Discount market loans week fixed 10% - 10%
3 month interbank 10% - 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10% - 9%
3 month DM 5% - 5% - 5
3 month Fr 10% - 11%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.00
Fed funds 10%
Treasury long bond 107% - 107%

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
an \$339.00 pm \$343.10
close \$342.25 - \$343.75 (\$272.75 - 273.25)
New York (latest): \$342.40
Krugerrand (per coin): \$352.50 - \$354 (\$281 - 282)
Sovereign (new): \$81 - 82 (\$64.75 - 65)
*Excludes VAT

NEWS IN BRIEF

Brazil will not seek new loan

Brazilian officials travelling to New York at the weekend for the third round of talks with the country's creditors, say they will not be asking for any new loans. Export earnings are up by 25 per cent this year, and a visible trade surplus of more than \$12 billion is expected, so the year will end with less than \$1 billion in current account deficit. Reserves standing between \$6 billion and \$8 billion will comfortably cover a small deficit if Brazil manages to increase exports by another six per cent next year, and the rise in imports is held to less than 10 per cent.

● **FLIGHT REFUELLING** is paying an interim dividend of 1.1p (0.9p) for the six months trading period to June 30 after pretax profits rose from £2.5m to £4.5m on sales ahead from £14.6m to £29.2m.

Tempos, page 23
● **ZANUSSI**, the Italian domestic appliances maker and object of a takeover bid by Electrolux of Sweden, has been fined £200m (about £88,000) by the Italian Treasury for foreign currency offences incurred in the 1970s, relating to a lease-back operation with a company in West Germany.

Warning over car insurance

The Department of Trade and Industry has given a warning to motorists who bought policies from an insurance company called Cormorant Insurance Company, that the policies are invalid and should be replaced with new cover.

It has appealed for information from motorists on the extent of Cormorant's activities. The Department of Trade has petitioned the High Court to wind up the North London company.

HAT buys Acrow depots

By Jeremy Warner

The business consists of 22 freehold and leasehold depots in Britain and Ireland. HAT will be acquiring the use of the Acrow name and all the patents and drawings of products developed by Acrow in this field.

Acrow called in the receivers, Mr Michael Jordan and Mr John Naylor, from the accountancy firm Cork Gully, in September after failing to stem persistent heavy losses. The receivers have sold Thomas Storey, the Stockport Bailey bridge maker.

Japan's expatriate wives sent on 'spy-and-buy' trade missions

By John Lawless

Japan embarrassed by the latest figures showing yet another record trade surplus, has drafted women into the worldwide battle to promote foreign imports.

The government has told the wives of Japanese executives working overseas to go out on "spy-and-buy" missions for products that help dampen demand at home for domestically-produced goods.

It has also despatched a first-ever all women buying mission abroad, on orders from the Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) to "purchase merchandise that will really tempt the women to buy".

Team leader Ms Ichiko Ishihara, managing director of the Takashimaya department store, says that "in Japan it is very difficult to change male

chauvinism" and that "it may not be possible for us alone to fill the trade gap".

The Japanese Government's problem, however, is that women who make most of the day-to-day purchasing decisions often have a preference for goods made in Japanese factories - where they once attached a snob appeal to imported items. Its other huge hurdle is a balance of trade surplus which, it was reported this week, had reached \$18.77 billion for the six months ending in September.

In trade talks which finished in Brussels yesterday, EEC officials warned Japanese counterparts that measures to open their market are not working fast enough and that more initiatives are needed.

Jetro also announced yesterday that, among other things, a

similar mission to that of Ms Ishihara's - which saw 30 women working in the Japanese distribution system scouring the United States for 16 days last month - is already scheduled to visit Europe next year.

The goods selected by 50 Japanese women living in Britain as potential imports this week went on show in 23 locations in Tokyo and Osaka, and by March will have toured 18 other Japanese cities. They are among 1,200 items chosen by 350 Japanese living Europe for what Jetro calls the "European goods I recommend exhibition".

The women chose from Harrods, Mothercare, High Street shops, mail order catalogues and from goods they use in their own homes.

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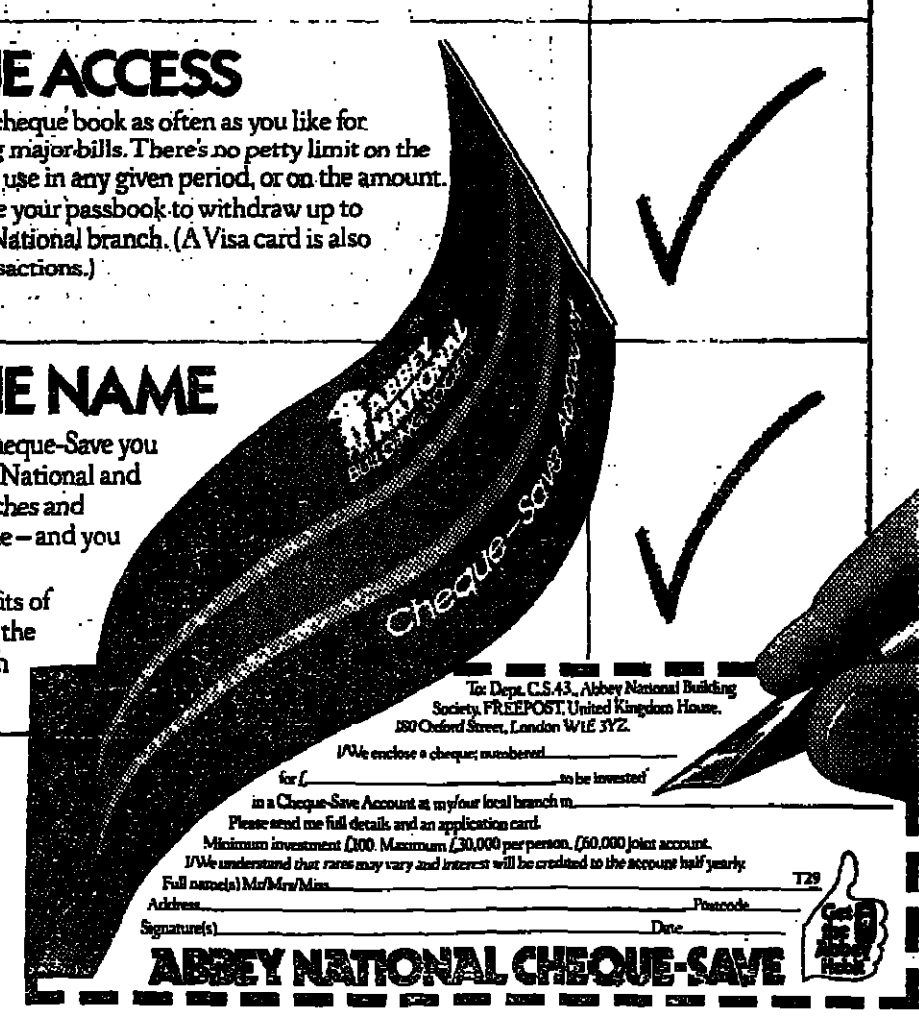
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TEMPUS

Bank bulletin holds key to £1bn gilts funding

To understand yesterday's dramatic funding moves in the gilt market study. Paragraphs one and two on page 326 of the Bank of England's quarterly Bulletin in September.

After exhausting his portfolio of tapelets this week, the Government Broker announced the creation of a £1 billion tranche of Exchequer 9½ per cent 1998 stock in the market, with £20 per cent payable on tender next Wednesday.

Traders immediately commented on the careful way the Government Broker, an increasingly popular chap in the markets - had left the interest rate shorts untrapped. But page 326 fits such anecdotal reactions into a general framework.

The Bulletin says that after exhausting its portfolio of tapelets, and against a background of favourable US developments, the Bank announced on August 3, its first full-scale issue for three months. The timing of the issue took into account favourable indications of impending money supply figures.

The parallels between early August and November are compelling. A successful BT flotation implies an Exchequer flush with cash. The authorities

exhausted their tapelets early this week, and the US bond market has been buoyant.

Yesterday's partly-paid issue was very roughly the first full-scale new issue since the August funding spree. And money supply figures are due on Tuesday.

On the "history repeats itself" reading, the Tuesday statistics should be good, pointing the way presumably towards a hefty cut in base rates. On August 8, base rates fell by half a percentage point.

Last night, the market departed for the weekend more or less convinced that ½ point cut in rates was sewn up. The Treasury bill tender came out at 9.56 per cent, which rounded up under the old formula, gives a 10 per cent base rate.

Accountancy

Having consistently failed to convince British companies on technical grounds that they should produce information in their accounts about the impact of inflation on the annual results, the Accounting Standards Committee has now resorted to a more subtle inducement.

The new statement of intent which spelt out the new

simplified method of calculating current cost adjustments has the impression of being a carefully concealed bribe, designed to lure companies into complying with the inflation accounting rules.

The problem for the ASC is that, with inflation running at under 5 per cent, interest in the subject within the business community is dwindling. The accountancy profession is, however, committed to putting a standard in place. It would seem, though, that the ASC is too tired to give the problem much more consideration and has therefore settled for this broadbrush approach which by its very vagueness should gain acceptance.

Flight Refuelling

Flight Refuelling duly confirmed its reputation as an emerging electronics giant yesterday by announcing interim pretax profits ahead by 92 per cent to £4.8m.

According to the board, second-half outcome should be at least as satisfactory, a statement which derives some credence from the fact that the year-end falls in December.

All the numbers now look in place for the group to achieve £10m or so pretax outcome for the year (£7.6m).

COMPANY NEWS
IN BRIEF

TATE AND LYLE: Tate's oilseed, Redpath Industries, has entered into an agreement to purchase Donlee Manufacturing of Toronto for about \$44m (£27m). Donlee's main business is the manufacture of injection moulded plastic products for the car industry.

ESTATE AND AGENCY HOLDINGS: Half-year to June 30. No interim (nil). Figures in £000. Turnover 511 (433). Pretax profit 258 (189.5).

MAGNET & SOUTHERNS has agreed subject to contract, the terms for the acquisition of Hyphen Food Furniture for a maximum of £2.0m, payable in four stages the consideration payable at stage two, three and four being subject to performance by Hyphen.

SIR JOSEPH CAUSTON AND SONS: Half-year to July 31. Int. div. 0.9p (0.87p). Figures in £000. Turnover 10,922 (13,283). Pretax profit 508 (400).

PARKER KNOLL: The annual meeting was held that sales and profit in the first three months are fractionally ahead of last year in a market that has yet to show signs of significant improvement. In the short term, an end to the miners' dispute is necessary to restore confidence. In the longer term, the board remains optimistic.

REFUGEE ASSURANCE: The board has despatched a circular proposing the introduction of a new holding company, Refugee Group PLC. The proposals will be implemented by a scheme of arrangement.

PCT GROUP: Half-year to June 30. Interim dividend 1.6p (nil). Figs. in £000. Group turnover 4,459 (4,077). Pretax profit 815 (516).

ABACO INVESTMENTS: Year to June 30. Final div 0.15p gross (nil). Figs in £000. Turnover 4,927 (1,781). Pretax profit 285 (253) loss.

RIO ALGON: Nine months to Sept 30. Figs in £000. Net earnings before tax and minority interests, 76,791 (£7,330). Income and mining taxes 25,434 (£2,820). Minority interests, credit, 915 (£1,323) debit. Consolidated net earnings 52,272 (£3,187).

LAPORTE INDUSTRIES (HOLDINGS): has acquired 75 per cent shareholding in fine Organics, a privately held company specialising in the manufacture of fine organic chemical intermediates for the pharmaceutical, agrochemical and other industries. The consideration amount to £4.05m.

KENNEDY BROOKES: Shareholders have approved all the resolutions to acquire the six properties - the Bertorelli properties - and to acquire the whole of the issued capital of the Cafe des Amis.

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Home

7/8/84

WEST STAR COMMODITIES LIMITED

APPOINTMENTS

British Gas: Mr Peter Walsh becomes treasurer in succession to Mr Alex Webster who is now deputy chairman in the southern region.

General Mills Toy Group: Mr James Fifield has been elected US group executive vice president with responsibilities for all the company's consumer non-foods operations which include the toy, fashion and specialty retailing groups. Succeeding Mr Fifield as head of the toy group in New York will be Mr Jeffrey Jacobson, vice president. General Mills Toy Group Europe. In Europe, Mr Peter Waterman becomes vice president.

Euram Consulting: Mr Michael Buswell has joined the board.

UML: Following the appointment of Mr James M. B. Duckworth as senior liaison officer of the Unilever Overseas Committee, he is being succeeded as managing director of UML by Mr William G. Byrnes, lately managing director of General Freight International. Mr Byrnes will also become chairman of In Business, the small business advisory agency, and the Cavendish Enterprise Centre.

RECENT ISSUES

Issue	Price
Addition Comm. 2p Ord (116)	166-1
Appliance, A & P 10p Ord (87)	84-1
Breadmate 10p Ord (102)	102-1
Bri Bloodstock Ag 25p Ord (165)	165-1
Checkmate Europe 25p Ord (16)	16-1
Comp Fin Serv 5p Ord (83)	83-1
Croton Lodge & Knight 10p Ord (115)	115-1
Emphorok 20p Ord (16)	16-1
Genet R 25p Ord (104)	104-1
Hoggen Brown 5p Ord (17)	17-1
Island Freight 10p Ord (210)	210-1
Island Technology 20p Ord (117)	117-1
Older Hides 20p Ord (117)	117-1
Paul Michael J. 5p Ord (30)	30-1
Reunite 10p Ord (11)	11-1
Scania Hops 50p Ord (105)	105-1
Second Market Inv 5p Ord (11)	11-1
Shere Drug stores 10p Ord (14)	14-1
Sonic International 20p Ord (125)	125-1
T & S Stores 5p Ord (1)	1-1
Trade Promotion 10p Ord (75)	75-1
U D Holdings 10p Ord (108)	108-1
Waste City of Los Prop 25p Ord (100)	100-1

Issue price in parentheses a United Securities, by tender.

A BUILDING SOCIETY MAY NOT BE THE BEST PLACE FOR £5,000.

If you had put £5,000 into a higher interest account with a building society 3 years ago, the return on your investment would have been £6,365. (£5,000 capital, plus £1,365 income.)

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*Income, Oct 1982/2: £280.15	*Interest, Oct 1982/2: £228.12
Oct 1982/3: £354.86	Oct 1982/3: £412.50
Oct 1983/4: £362.95	Oct 1983/4: £425.00
Total	Total
£1,007.96	£1,065.62
£1,007.96	£1,065.62
TOTAL	TOTAL
£10,180.61	£6,385.62

(Investment period 1.10.81-1.10.84)

*Not income to a basic rate taxpayer. £5,000 over the same period in a £5,000 invested in this manner in the FT Industrial Ordinary Share Index and the British Government 5-15 year index would now be worth £28,228.92

Unit trusts are generally thought of in terms of long-term savings and so the above figures, showing how quickly our Scheme has out-performed a building society, will probably come as a surprise to most people.

CAPITAL GROWTH, PLUS A GROWING MONTHLY INCOME.

Our Monthly Income Scheme is made up of four of our historically high-performing trusts, plus one more recently launched trust with a high-income return from the outset.

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The Scheme's aim is not just for a good income which increases over the years. It also aims for long-term capital growth.

With a building society, you cannot have both.

To get capital growth in a building society's higher interest account you must reinvest your interest; in which case you have no income. But if you take your interest as income, you cannot have capital growth. Your £5,000 will only ever remain worth £5,000. (Indeed, with inflation, it becomes worth less each year.)

TRUST (DATE LAUNCHED)	OBJECTIVE	*CAPITAL VALUE OF £1,000 INVESTED ON 1st JANUARY 1981	CURRENT ESTIMATED YIELD	GROSS INCOME PROGRESSION ON 1st JANUARY 1981	INCOME PAYMENT DATES
TRUSTEE (15.10.81)	Income and capital growth from a portfolio of British and overseas companies.	£5,644	3.83%	£49	15 Feb 15 Aug
INCOME (2.10.84)	The highest income that is consistent with the security of capital.	£5,956	4.50%	£66	15 Mar 15 Sep
GENERAL (10.10.82)	A reasonable return of income with future prospects of capital and income growth.	£6,448	4.08%	£68	15 May 15 Nov
EXTRA INCOME (10.10.82)	A high and growing income together with long term conservation from a portfolio composed mainly of Ordinary Shares.	£3,977	6.76%	£83	15 Jun 15 Dec
GILT AND FIXED INTEREST (1.11.83)	A high income from a managed portfolio investing in British Government Stocks and other fixed interest securities.	£1,078	10.04%	£108	15 Jan 15 Apr 15 July 15 Oct

We don't recommend, of course, that you put every penny of your savings in our Monthly Income Scheme. But if you have £5,000 or more that you know you won't need for everyday expenses or unforeseen emergencies, our Scheme is very attractive. Look at the big chart, and you can see

how money put in our trusts has kept growing in both capital and income value.

THE LONGER YOU SAVE, THE BETTER.

Over the last 5 years, for instance, average income growth was 60%. Over 10 years, 129.3%.

From a building society, your income has actually fallen over the long term. Building societies have always been at the mercy of fluctuating interest rates.

You should remember, when considering unit trusts, that the price of units, and income from them, can go down as well as up. Past performance is not necessarily any guide to future growth.

UNIT PRICES.

On 1st November, the offer price of units, which can change daily, were: Trustee 76.2p, Income 216.2p, General 92.2p, Extra Income 51.3p, Gilt and Fixed Interest Income 53.9p.

Simply complete the application form below to take advantage of our Scheme.

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You can invest in the Barclays Unicorn Monthly Income Scheme with a lump sum of £5,000 or more. Your money will be divided equally between all 5 Trusts.

The initial service charge, which is included in the price of units, is 5% except for the Gilt & Fixed Interest Income Trust, where it is 3.4% on investments of up to £5,000 in that Trust (less for larger orders).

For all Trusts there is an annual charge of ¼ of 1% of the Trust's value, plus VAT, which is deducted from the Trust's income. This charge may be increased to 1%, plus VAT subject to 3 months' notice to unitholders, except that in the case of the Trustee Fund the charge is limited to its present rate.

You can sell back units on any business day at the bid price ruling when your instructions arrive. Payment will normally be made within seven working days of receipt of the renounced certificate. The prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times and other newspapers.

To: Barclays Unicorn Limited, 252 Romain Road, London E7 9JB. Tel: 01-534 5544.

SURNAME (Mr, Mrs, or Miss)

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

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PHONE

I/We wish to invest (minimum £5,000) £ in the Barclays Unicorn Monthly Income Scheme and enclose a cheque for this amount.

I/We understand that units will be bought for me/us at the offer prices ruling on the date of receipt of this application.

(Consent given showing the number of units purchased in each Trust will be sent to you immediately, and certificates will be posted within six weeks. In the case of joint applications all must sign. Remuneration is paid to qualified intermediaries; rates are available on request. This offer is available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.)

SIGNED

DATE

BARCLAYS

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INSURANCE

GRE raises non-smoker discounts

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance proudly announced on Thursday that it was raising its non-smoker discounts on life policies for the third time since introducing them in 1981. The discount then was only 10 per cent; it is now being raised to a full third of the premium.

The definition of a non-smoker remains as anyone who has not smoked a cigarette for the last 12 months - convenient for cigar and pipe smokers who thus qualify as non-smokers. The move is clearly beneficial to GRE policyholders, but how much more competitive does it actually make GRE's policies in comparison with the best quotes on the market? Comparisons can be difficult but for a GRE mortgage protection policy of £20,000 for a male aged 30 the minimum non-smoker premium is £36 per year.

But a policy of £10,000 more (though for a man of only 25) with Equitable Life, currently the cheapest in the market, costs a mere £21.70 per year and that is without a non-smoker's discount. The next best quote is Economic Assurance with a yearly premium of £24.20 on a £30,000 policy for a male aged 25. Even with its new discounts, GRE may not be the most competitive.

Richard Thomson

Six choices

A new investment bond being offered by Provident Life Association this week provides a choice of six funds - including PLA's unit fund.

Performance is the keynote of all unitized insurance company investment schemes and on this score the latest plan, Plusbond, from Provident Life could be worth while. The existing Unit Fund, which is a managed fund, has been outperformed by only two others and has turned a £1,000 investment made in 1979 into £2,322 over the five-year period.

If Provident Life manages to maintain this performance on its new investment plan then it could be worth looking at. Details from Provident Life Association, 295 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4QP.

TSB trust

With the oil price looking unsure, now is not perhaps the best time for the launch of TSB's Natural Resources Trust, but TSB has bravely taken the plunge.

The end of *The Times* unit trust competition is only two months away, and a clear division has opened between the professional advisers on our panel.

Mr Peter Hargreaves of Hargreaves Lansdown and Mr Peter Edwards of Premier Unit Trust Brokers have pulled ahead of their competitors, Mr Jamie Berry of Berry Asset Management and Mr Mark Searle of Richard Longstaff.

Figures worked out by Mr Edwards reveal just how wide the gulf has become. He reminds us: "We said at the beginning of the competition that it will probably be won by an American fund (if Mr Reagan is re-elected United States president on Tuesday) or definitely by a Japanese fund (if he loses) so the competition will be a

cliff-hanger with the decisive action kept until the end. Earlier in the year there was quite a lot of doubt over whether Mr Reagan would be re-elected though that has now evaporated."

Mr Edwards went into the Far East with three Japanese trusts, all of which have done well, although not as well as Mr Hargreaves' second choice of Fidelity Japan.

"The Tokyo market is tied very much to what is happening on Wall Street", he believes,

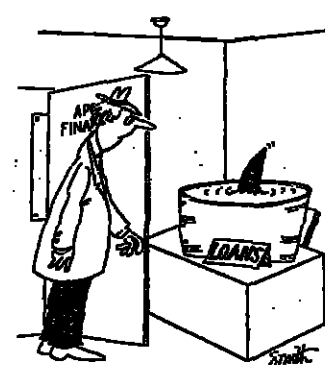
The fund will be invested in a spread of international shares with the portfolio split between energy, mining and soft commodities and traders. TSB believes that the world economic cycle is approaching a point where a recovery in commodity prices can be expected, especially for metals. The minimum investment is £250. Details from TSB branches, or TSB Trust Company, Keens House, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1PG.

Courting disaster

The title *Practising Corporate Failure*, for the latest publication in the Institute of Chartered Accountants' Notes for Businessmen series, is not likely to appeal to the optimistic entrepreneur.

The idea behind the book, that many disasters could be avoided if only the proprietors and managers spotted the danger signs in time, is a good one. But they could have chosen a better title - "Avoiding Corporate Failure," perhaps.

The book contains examples of various monitoring systems and proposes that they be used to cross-



check each other to provide an indication of the financial position of the company.

"Notes for Businessmen" are intended for distribution by accountants to their clients in small businesses, says the Institute. It would be interesting to see the reaction from a client when the accountant hands over a copy of

Practising Corporate Failure. Copies of the book are available from the Institute of Chartered Accountants, 399 Silbury Boulevard, Wotton Gate East, Central Milton Keynes MK9 2HL, price £1.25.

Sheffield winner

Sheffield Building Society, which pays a massive 11.5 per cent on its children's regular savings account (provided a parent or grandparent has investments with the society), is launching a seven-day notice account which puts it up with the market leaders.

The new 20+ account will pay 9.85 per cent net of basic rate tax for amounts of £20,000 or over. Details from Sheffield Building Society, 65 Campo Lane, Sheffield, S1 2EG.

Bank charge details

That item on your bank statement which usually says nothing more than "charges" will be a little more informative in future if you bank with NatWest.

It is introducing a detailed breakdown of account charges on customers' statements - presumably in response to complaints received when it raised charges and imposed a 33-quarter "maintenance charge". More than 5 million personal customers have current accounts and of these 55 per cent pay account charges. The breakdown will start on statements issued after the third week of December.

Guaranteed income

Investors with £5,000 or more can earn 9.35 per cent net of basic rate tax on Pinnacle Insurance Company's latest guaranteed income bond. Unlike a building society account, the interest rate on the new Pinnacle Income Bond does not vary during the five-year term and is guaranteed.

With the possibility of a decline in interest rates, now might be the time to lock up these high returns. Investors with £1,000 to £5,000 earn a slightly lower return of 9.2 per cent basic rate tax paid. As with all income bonds, higher rate tax payers will have a further tax liability.

Details from Pinnacle Insurance Company, London Chambers, 3 Cork Street, London W1X 2LQ.

Help with heating

Fear of debt forces many elderly people to economize on heating - sometimes with fatal effects. To help the elderly make the most of their resources, Age Concern has produced a booklet, *Heating Help in Retirement*, which provides guidance on installing a heating system, or making improvements to the existing one.

It also looks at ways of getting warm by draught-proofing, grants available and methods of getting the work done. Fuel-saving is dealt with, as well as eating well to keep warm, sources of help to pay heating bills, the fuel boards' code of practice on disconnections, methods of payment, how to read a fuel bill and explanations of the various tariffs.

The booklet is available, price £1, from Age Concern England, Marketing Department PFS, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL.

out in other markets, which have stood still."

Mr Berry believes the performance of US shares after the presidential election will be the deciding issue in determining the winner of the competition.

"If we were to see a sharp sell-off of US shares (which I do not think we will) other markets would fall more quickly. There is not much room for disappointment."

He expects to see Japan continuing to make the running, but does not see huge profits to be made in any equity market. "I think it is a much less risky investment than equities at the moment."

He recommends dollar bond funds, in particular the Fidelity fund which has a yield of 12 per cent.

Lorna Bourke

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST COMPETITION

Gulf emerges between advisers

though if he were investing now, he would go for United States invested funds. "We quite like Oppenheimer American, Henderson North-American and, for a more punchy ride Henderson American Recovery."

His clients' portfolios are split 30 per cent in Japan, 30 per cent in the UK market and 40 per cent in the US.

The winner of the competition between the advisers is the person whose first choice performs best, so on this basis

Mr Edwards, is with Henderson Japan, running neck and neck with Mr Hargreaves, whose first choice is Perpetual American.

"We still prefer American funds despite the fact that we think the dollar is overvalued," said Mr Hargreaves. "I have often said that I expect to see the pound/dollar exchange rate at one for one during my lifetime but I must admit I did not foresee it happening so soon."

"The thing that has made the Japanese market look so good is

that Japanese shares are cheap for American investors because of the exchange rate. A lot of American money has been finding its way onto the Tokyo exchange."

He still believes, however, that America has more potential in the medium-term. "Two years out, America will provide good returns - it still looks the best value for money." His recommendations for anyone investing now are Henderson American Recovery, Perpetual American and Abbey US

Emerging Companies for anyone who wants a flutter in the smaller fry.

Mr Jamie Berry, who has managed only a modest 5 per cent increase on his first choice of F & C Far East, now believes his choices would have stood a better chance over a longer timescale. "I think this has been a difficult year. Most people with a balanced portfolio have found it particularly tricky because the money they made in Japan and the Far East will probably have been cancelled

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NAME

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Tel. No.

Capital available £

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INVESTMENTS

'Umbrella' funds offer flexibility

This weekend sees the launch of two 'umbrella' offshore funds of the kind pioneered onshore by Arbutnot. This type of arrangement gives investors the opportunity to switch between different investment pots - North America, Japan, Britain and the like - without incurring stamp duty or capital gains tax liability, but this has not yet been challenged by the Inland Revenue.

Save and Prosper Group's Global Portfolio Fund follows the Henderson Portfolio Management Service format giving investors a more limited opportunity to rove the world.

It is a single managed fund covering world equity, fixed interest and deposit markets which will invest in Save and Prosper's offshore funds and UK unit trusts as well as the Jardine Fleming unit trusts managed from Hongkong. The minimum investment is £1,000 and there is a hefty 7% per cent initial charge plus a 1 per cent annual management fee.

Henderson's Portfolio Management Service, launched in April, offers a choice of four funds - balanced growth, select markets ("our racy little number"), income and growth, and high income. The funds are pledged never to hold more than 40 per cent of their assets in Henderson's funds - so the managers have to look to other unit trusts.

Schroders is also launching an offshore fund, based in the Cayman Islands and managed from Guernsey, this weekend. Clearly modelled on the Garmore fund which was first in the field. It has 11 equity funds, two fixed-interest, four separate currency funds and a managed currency fund. But this scheme, unlike Garmore's, has a 5 per cent front end fee and a 1 per cent annual management fee.

Guinness Mahon too is aiming to have a similar offshore fund with 15 classes of funds plus a managed currency fund. Mr Howard Flight of Guinness Mahon said that it is administratively cheaper to have a complete stable of funds under one offshore company rather than many different funds each with its own Stock Exchange listing.

As well as the capital gains tax advantage for investors, offshore funds are more tax efficient investment vehicles for overseas investments.

Vivien Goldsmith

Little comfort on house contents cover

Thefts and burglaries are costing insurers £3 for every £1 received so premiums are set to rise considerably

Nearly 250,000 people who insured the contents of their houses with the Prudential are likely to be looking for a cheaper deal when their policies come up for renewal.

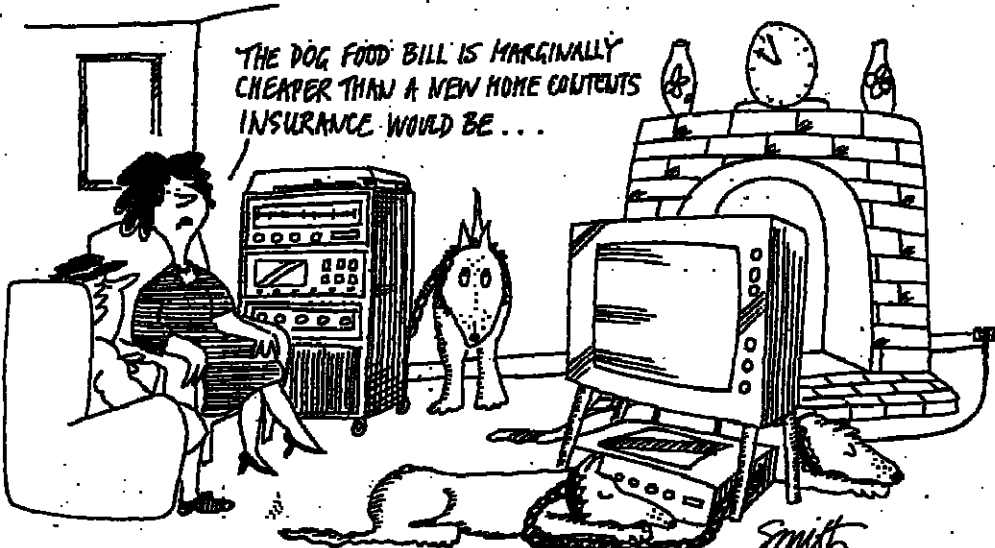
The Pru has announced swingeing increases of up to 100 per cent on its premium rates for house contents policies in several inner city areas. But this came after smaller increases on contents policies by Norwich Union and Commercial Union.

A number of other large insurers are expected to raise their rates before the end of the year. So whenever the potential customer looks, he is likely to find house contents premiums considerably higher than a year ago.

The main reason given by the Pru for its rate increase was rising crime, causing a thumping underwriting loss running at twice last year's level. In some inner city areas theft and burglary are costing the company £3 for every £1 it receives in premiums.

For the industry as a whole the picture is little better. The British Insurance Association calculates that theft claims alone cost insurance companies £156m in the first half of this year - 12 per cent more than the first half of last year.

Faced with losses like these it is not surprising that premium rates are beginning to rise. Legal and General is likely to be the next company to move. At present its highest risk rating is £9.50 per £1,000 of house contents. But from December



10 this will rise for many of the company's policyholders to £11 per £1,000 insured. National Westminster, at present one of the cheapest is another company about to raise its rates.

Sun Alliance, another large contents insurer is also reconsidering its rates though it may not make a change until next year.

It is already one of the most expensive.

Many of the other large companies in this area are waiting for their regular review periods next year before moving.

But when they do raise their rates some could well go above even the Pru's levels. This is because for a long time the Pru kept its own rates low until it was forced into the latest increases.

Though it has leap-frogged other companies for the time being its competitors, who have been raising their rates more steadily, may again overtake it before long.

Apart from the cost of

premiums, however, the Pru's move holds other, potentially more significant implications for policyholders.

To begin with, it has raised the excess, the amount below which it will not pay up on theft claims to unprecedented high levels: £100 on an ordinary indemnity policy and £200 on a new-for-old policy.

And perhaps of more long term significance, the Pru has given a warning that it might get tough on its assessment of claims. It could, for example, refuse to pay out the full amount if it judged that the claimant had not taken basic precautions to keep thieves out of his house.

It might even scale down its payments if the policyholder is under-insured in the first place.

Insurance companies are legally entitled to limit their payments in these ways but so far have generally chosen not to do so. "I would certainly hope we do not have to start getting tough", said one company

representative, echoing the views of most insurers.

He added that, "under-insurance is always a problem". To be safe it is wise to stay fully insured - you could regret being under-insured when it comes to the crunch.

But the news on insurance premiums is not all bad. The Pru, for example, actually lowered its premiums for people living in the relatively crime-free rural areas of East Anglia and the West Country by up to 20 per cent.

Most other companies also ensure that when they do change their rates country areas get reductions.

And among the large house contents insurers there are some remarkably good deals. The Trustee Savings Bank and the Co-op Bank's schemes are by far the cheapest for inner city inhabitants.

A new-for-old policy in the high risk areas with the Co-op costs only £6 per £1,000 insured, while the TSB charges £7.50 on a similar policy.

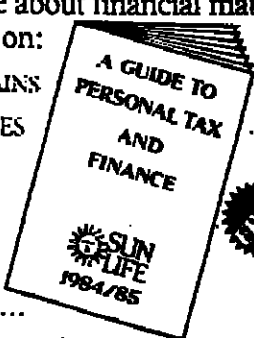
Richard Thomson

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Now an extra £1 million has been put into the monthly prize draw. That means we're paying out over £10 million in prize money every single month. And every month someone wins the top prize of £250,000. That someone could be you.

It's worth knowing there are now 50,000 more winners every month.

Now over 150,000 people will win a Premium Bond prize every month. Prizes which range from £50 to £250,000. That means you stand a much increased chance of winning.

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the month of purchase. The prize fund now represents 7 3/4% pa of the total value of all bonds in the draw.

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Ian McDonald

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year	Price	Chg	Ytd	P/E
1	British Kair	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
2	SEB	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
3	Green (M)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
4	Meyer Int	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
5	Lang (I)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
6	RMC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
7	Higgs & Hill	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
8	Lowell (V)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
9	Calliford	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
10	Mowlem (John)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
11	INDUSTRIALS A-D	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
12	Chad & Son	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
13	Quaker	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
14	APV	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
15	Crown House	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
16	Dunster	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
17	Chelmsford	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
18	Davy	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
19	Beggs	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
20	Electricals	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
21	ICI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
22	East Elms	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
23	UEI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
24	Roofing	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
25	CASE	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
26	WCC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
27	Energy Serv	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
28	Perrins	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
29	Unilever	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
30	Cable & Wireless	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
31	PROVINTY	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
32	Rowland	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
33	MEPC	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
34	New Cavendish	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
35	Lang Prop	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
36	Henderson	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
37	Samm	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
38	Milbury	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
39	Monmouth	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
40	Patric	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

1984 High Low Stock Price Chg Ytd % P/E

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LONGS

1.14 0.00 1.14 1.14

BREWERIES

1.14 0.00 1.14 1.14

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1.14 0.00 1.14 1.14

ELECTRICALS

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INDUSTRIALS A-D

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HOTELS AND CATERERS

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DRAPERY AND STORES

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CINEMAS AND TV

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CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

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Oil

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares advance again

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Oct 29. Dealings end, Nov 9. Contango Day, Nov 12. Settlement Day, Nov 19.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

DAILY DIVIDEND
£2,000
Claims required
for
+47 points

WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£20,000
Claims required
for
+184 points

No.	Company	Year	Price	Chg	Ytd	P/E
1	British Kair	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
2	SEB	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
3	Green (M)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
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5	Lang (I)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
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7	Higgs & Hill	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
8	Lowell (V)	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
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23	UEI	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
24	Roofing	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
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38	Milbury	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
39	Monmouth	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14
40	Patric	1984	1.14	0.00	1.14	1.14

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Mining

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T3184

RACING: TOM SHARP PROVES HIS CESAREWITCH TRIUMPH IS NO FLUKE WITH ANOTHER NEWMARKET VICTORY

Miss Kuta Beach to reap rich Autumn harvest

Cataldi will have an excellent chance of winning the Autumn Handicap at Newmarket today if he runs anywhere near as well as he did over today's course and distance in the Champion Stakes, in which he finished fourth, about two lengths behind the winner. He was in the field that day only as a pacemaker for his stable's first string, Raft, but it was only towards the finish that he was collared by the eventual winner, Palace Music, Pebbles and his stable companion.

However, it may be wise to turn a blind eye to that performance as it was far away superior to anything that he had ever achieved before and as such, perhaps, a flash in the pan. Also Cataldi had a very hard race that day.

In recent years Hani Knight and Miramar Reef also ran in today's race against a similar background and each let their supporters down. So I am looking for the winner to come from a short list comprising Portlaw, Promised Isle and Miss Kuta Beach. Yesterday George Robinson, our Newmarket Correspondent, reported how well Miss Kuta Beach went in a gallop a week ago with Wylla and Miss Saint Cloud. So following that good win at Ascot last month she is preferred now to Promised Isle who was far from disgraced in the Cambridgehire.

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

St Signor is my idea of the best bet of the day, though, to win the Jennings the Bookmakers Zealand Stakes. Trained by Paul Cole, who sent out Crimmon Beau to win the same race in 1977, my map ran on really well to win his last race over a mile and 40 yards at Haydock. Now his Hill House stable are confident that he will relish the longer distance of today's race because he has clearly inherited an abundance of stamina from his dam, Odeon, who had good form over 12 and 14 furlongs.

Cole is also hopeful that Jenny Goulding will win the Dickens Invitation Stakes for him on Ace of Spies, who was only beaten a whisker in his latest race at Ascot. But I just prefer John Dunlop's progressive filly Park Parade, who has won five of her last six races and may still be ahead of the handicapper.

At Sandown, Little Bay and Kyoto will turn out for the Holsten Export Lager Handicap Chase just three days after their exciting duel at Ascot. This time, though, they may both have to give best to Millbriain Castle, who won the race 12 months ago. Injury then kept him off the course for the rest of the season but he is said to be in fine fettle again now. His stable is certainly in fine form.

A Kinsman (1.30) and Deret (2.30) are my fancies for



On the way down: Richard Rowe and Greenwood Lad come to grief at the third last in yesterday's Childwick Bury Stnd Handicap Chase at Sandown Park. Rowe dislocated a collarbone in the fall and misses five booked rides at Sandown today. (Photograph: George Selwyn)

Melbourne Cup not fixed say police

Australian police say that the Melbourne Cup race will not be fixed. The police said that they had received information that some of the jockeys had been offered money to fix the race, but they had refused the offer.

The winner was Beldale Ball, an 11-3 shot owned by Robert Sangster. Twelve horses suffered interference during the race, but a stewards' inquiry cleared all jockeys.

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Dawson fights back with first double

Steve Dawson, the 21-year-old Lancashire-born apprentice, who nearly became a racing legend after five months, continued his fightback with his first-ever double on Perion and Tom Sharp, at Newmarket yesterday.

The head victory on Tom Sharp in the Marathon Handicap was a particularly sweet result for Dawson, proving that Cesarewitch triumph 12 days previously had been just luck after a big injury. Dawson opened up a two furlong lead and cruised home by six lengths on the 40-1 Melton Mowbray-trained gelding. This time, Tom Sharp carried a 15-1 penalty, started 11-4 favourite, led after six furlongs and gamely held off Baby's Smile by a head.

Dawson, who smashed his left leg on a concrete post at Brighton in mid-May, spent weeks on crutches, and almost gave up hope of riding again this year. Now, he has ridden

eight more winners since resuming at the end of September.

The successful trainer, Walter Wharton, purchased Tom Sharp as a yearling in Ireland, owned him until last August, then passed the four-year-old on to Dr Hay Yarrow and his son, Michael, from Hitchin.

Wharton said, "Tom Sharp now reverts to his old money. He's a Champion Hurdle may be a year too soon for him."

Half an hour earlier, Dawson launched his double with a strong late finish on the Epsom juvenile Perion to take the Potter Newmarket. That continued Brian Swift's vintage year. "That's 27 - one of my best - but easily my most successful year," said Dawson, a 30 per cent strike rate with my two-year-olds, and I'll be at Doncaster next week with my last 1984 runner, Prince Hab and Bond Dealer," the Epsom trainer said.

John O'Neill was taken to Harrogate Hospital with a broken left arm and missed a winning ride on Bucko at Wetherby yesterday only to find that his horse, O'Neill, was in the front rank when the 5-2 favourite Goosey Gander crashed at the last, with Mr Denotep sprouting all over him.

O'Neill, liverpool, was in the ambulance, breathing a peanikiller inhaler. Victory went to Eboracum who swept through to beat ATS Prince by five lengths.

UNBEATEN FIRST TIME: Newmarket: 1.15 General Train.

Rapidie Pied stops Boutin

Francois Boutin's seven-year domination of the Critérium de Maisons Laiffie came to an end yesterday when Rapidie Pied, trained by Jean-Louis Laffont, beat the head by a length. That continued Brian Swift's vintage year.

The English challenger Adderbrook did not line up for the seven furlong race as he had been found cast to his box.

might go to the inexperienced, but fresh Daga who carries the colours of the Aga Khan and who will be ridden by Yves Saint-Martin.

NEWMARKET

(Televised: 1.45, 2.15, 2.45)

GOING: Good

Draw: no advantage

1.15 SILENT TREAT (J. Dunlop) 1.45, 2.15, 2.45

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Newmarket results

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100

(continued from page 6)

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

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1. *Introduction*
 2. *Background*
 3. *Methodology*
 4. *Results*
 5. *Discussion*
 6. *Conclusion*
 7. *Acknowledgements*
 8. *References*
 9. *Appendix*
 10. *Index*
 11. *Table of Contents*
 12. *Abstract*
 13. *Keywords*
 14. *Summary*
 15. *References*
 16. *Appendix*
 17. *Index*
 18. *Table of Contents*
 19. *Abstract*
 20. *Keywords*
 21. *Summary*
 22. *References*
 23. *Appendix*
 24. *Index*
 25. *Table of Contents*
 26. *Abstract*
 27. *Keywords*
 28. *Summary*
 29. *References*
 30. *Appendix*
 31. *Index*
 32. *Table of Contents*
 33. *Abstract*
 34. *Keywords*
 35. *Summary*
 36. *References*
 37. *Appendix*
 38. *Index*
 39. *Table of Contents*
 40. *Abstract*
 41. *Keywords*
 42. *Summary*
 43. *References*
 44. *Appendix*
 45. *Index*
 46. *Table of Contents*
 47. *Abstract*
 48. *Keywords*
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 50. *References*
 51. *Appendix*
 52. *Index*
 53. *Table of Contents*
 54. *Abstract*
 55. *Keywords*
 56. *Summary*
 57. *References*
 58. *Appendix*
 59. *Index*
 60. *Table of Contents*
 61. *Abstract*
 62. *Keywords*
 63. *Summary*
 64. *References*
 65. *Appendix*
 66. *Index*
 67. *Table of Contents*
 68. *Abstract*
 69. *Keywords*
 70. *Summary*
 71. *References*
 72. *Appendix*
 73. *Index*
 74. *Table of Contents*
 75. *Abstract*
 76. *Keywords*
 77. *Summary*
 78. *References*
 79. *Appendix*
 80. *Index*
 81. *Table of Contents*
 82. *Abstract*
 83. *Keywords*
 84. *Summary*
 85. *References*
 86. *Appendix*
 87. *Index*
 88. *Table of Contents*
 89. *Abstract*
 90. *Keywords*
 91. *Summary*
 92. *References*
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 94. *Index*
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 96. *Abstract*
 97. *Keywords*
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 99. *References*
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 101. *Index*
 102. *Table of Contents*
 103. *Abstract*
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 106. *References*
 107. *Appendix*
 108. *Index*
 109. *Table of Contents*
 110. *Abstract*
 111. *Keywords*
 112. *Summary*
 113. *References*
 114. *Appendix*
 115. *Index*
 116. *Table of Contents*
 117. *Abstract*
 118. *Keywords*
 119. *Summary*
 120. *References*
 121. *Appendix*
 122. *Index*
 123. *Table of Contents*
 124. *Abstract*
 125. *Keywords*
 126. *Summary*
 127. *References*
 128. *Appendix*
 129. *Index*
 130. *Table of Contents*
 131. *Abstract*
 132. *Keywords*
 133. *Summary*
 134. *References*
 135. *Appendix*
 136. *Index*
 137. *Table of Contents*
 138. *Abstract*
 139. *Keywords*
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 142. *Appendix*
 143. *Index*
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 145. *Abstract*
 146. *Keywords*
 147. *Summary*
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 149. *Appendix*
 150. *Index*
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 152. *Abstract*
 153. *Keywords*
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 157. *Index*
 158. *Table of Contents*
 159. *Abstract*
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 172. *Table of Contents*
 173. *Abstract*
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 180. *Abstract*
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 194. *Abstract*
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 231. *Summary*
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 236. *Abstract*
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 243. *Abstract*
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 254. *Appendix*
 255. *Index*
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Abstract—The purpose of this study was to determine whether there were differences in the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders among different types of workers in the garment industry. The study included 600 employees from two garment factories in Mexico City. Data were collected by means of a self-administered questionnaire. Results showed that the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders was higher among female than male workers. The prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders was also higher among workers who had worked longer in the garment industry. Workers who performed sewing tasks had a higher prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders than those who performed nonsewing tasks. The results suggest that there are differences in the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders among different types of workers in the garment industry.

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 1968-69 Scooter 5.15
 1968-69 Buick 5.30
 1968 Late Car 5.9 12.00



Massacre of Sikhs on Delhi trains

continued from page 1

to open it. They started breaking the double glass window in the door. As they broke in, four young men yelled: "Are there any Sikhs here?" "There are none," answered the boys started to get down. But another group got in and searched the compartment.

"They shouted: 'We've found one,' Mr Bhatia said, and everyone got up to watch. 'I could not see, but I could hear blood being struck. They they dragged him the length of the carriage by his long hair.

After the youths got the Sikh out of the carriage, passengers saw him being beaten. "Suddenly there was a stench of burning flesh," Mr Bhatia said. "I saw flames and smoke, and I glimpsed a body burning. I hoped he was dead."

The father and young son of the Sikh family emerged from the lavatory in which they had been hiding. "Someone gave him a pair of scissors and said: 'For God's sake, cut your hair,'" Mr Bhatia said.

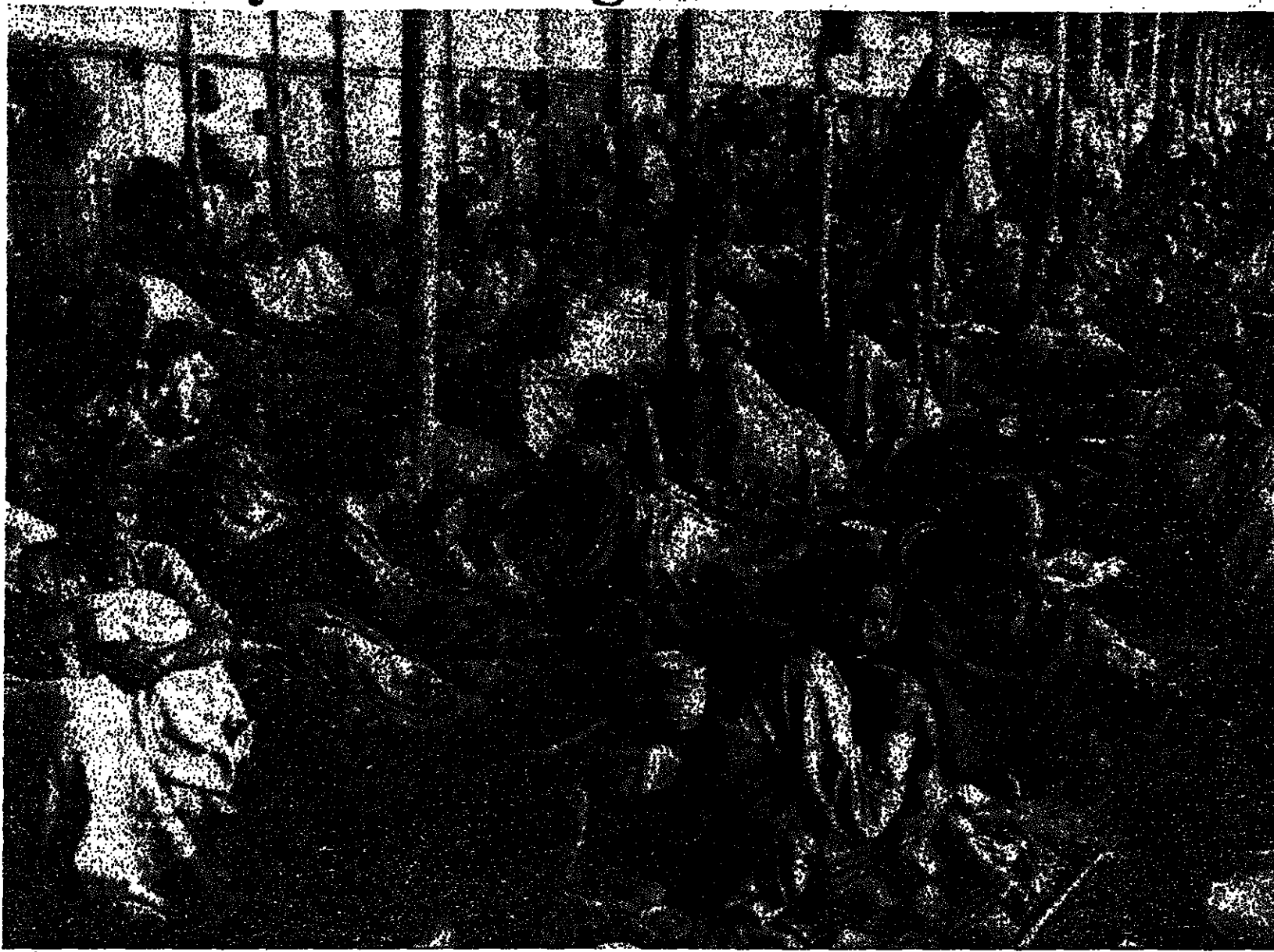
"This was an important thing for a Sikh, but he went back into the toilet and when he came out, both he and his son had cut their hair, and he had shaved off his beard. We sat there for three more hours, but no one gave the family away."

While these events were taking place, there were some moderately hopeful signs here. Peace committees were formed in a number of areas as local inhabitants clubbed together to protect their Sikh neighbours.

Mr Chandra Shekhar, president of the Janata Party, went on a peace march through Bhagal and Jangpura, industrial suburbs of south Delhi, where earlier in the day Sikhs and Hindus had been stoning each other from rooftops.

Meanwhile, more than 30 world leaders have arrived for Mrs Gandhi's funeral today. Those who have arrived include Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, and Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State. Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected this morning. Princess Anne, who is already here, will represent the Queen and then return to London, cutting short her Save The Children Fund projects.

Misery of the long wait for famine aid



Famine victims, huddled together at a relief camp in north Ethiopia after fleeing drought areas, await for food and medical aid.

From a Staff Reporter

Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, said yesterday that he would fly to Ethiopia tomorrow for a five-day study of famine and aid efforts.

Accompanied by two officials from the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development (CAFOD), he will take an aid donation from Christian Aid and messages of support from Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"Ethiopia and its tragedy is now part of everyone's conscience. It is also very necessary for us to find out, on the spot, why there seem to be such delays and confusion in getting help to those who are suffering so much," he said.

Two RAF Tristars chartered by British Airways were due to fly last night and today carrying up to 30 tonnes each of high-energy biscuits,

clothing, polythene sheeting and other supplies.

Three more RAF Hercules transport planes were also scheduled to depart for Ethiopia last night to join three which left on Thursday. With another Hercules set to depart in the next day or two, the planes will make up Operation Bushel, ferrying aid supplies within Ethiopia.

A Boeing 707, carrying 32 tonnes of grain for the famine victims, is due to leave Gatwick this morning. The flight has been organized by Mr Oliver Walston, a Hertfordshire farmer, as part of his Seed a Tonne to Africa campaign, an appeal to farmers to donate part of their harvest to starvation relief.

The idea is that, when they sell their grain, they should instruct the buyer to pay part of the money to the appeal.

After a slow start, the campaign has gathered momentum and is raising about £25,000 a day. By yesterday the total had reached nearly £360,000.

But Christian Aid said last night vast numbers of famine victims in northern Ethiopia would not receive aid unless the Government in Addis Ababa allowed free passage to areas affected by civil war.

"The international community is turning a blind eye to what is going on in order not to jeopardize other relief operations, but the needs of vast numbers of people in these areas will not go away," the charity group said.

It said it had received more evidence that the war against rebel guerrillas in Eritrea and Tigré was still going on. An international aid worker had confirmed that 42 civilians were killed and 92

wounded in a 90 minute air attack by government MIG aircraft on a village in Seraye province, Eritrea, on October 7.

More than 10 days after the BBC broadcast its harrowing film of famine victims dying at Sarte the Children Fund's feeding station in Korem, cheques, postal orders and cash are still pouring in.

"We are going flat out and we are expecting to go flat out for another two weeks anyway," the fund's chief accountant Mr John Eke, said yesterday as he watched his team stack cheques.

In Geneva, the United Nations said Africa's huge refugee population had risen to unprecedented levels. Figures showed that more than 140,000 people have recently fled from famine and war.

Home photograph, page 2

With Frank Johnson on the campaign trail

Manhattan almost stops for Mondale

Mr Mondale attracted a crowd of 100,000 cheering Democrats in the clothing district of Manhattan as this last full week of the long campaign drew to a close. Or possibly it was the other way about. Perhaps it was a crowd of 100,000 cheering Democrats who were attracted to the rally, which attracted Mr Mondale.

It was reported that for days in the Mondale-Ferraro New York campaign headquarters everything, including winning the election, had been subordinated to ensuring a good rally.

Various Mondale strategists were quoted as saying such things as: "The rally is an attention-getter. It will play all over the country. It gives us momentum and notoriety."

The event is an ancient tradition of the final days of Democratic election campaigns. In American terms, that means it goes back to 1944.

In that year, Roosevelt addressed a crowd on his way to inspecting the front lines in the Pacific, and less famous of the true defeats suffered by poor Dewey, the Republican whose far worse experience at the hands of Truman in 1948, when he was supposed to win, is the precedent on which Mr Mondale now sets all hope.

So the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the organizer of the rally, was set to work. This is the body romanticized in so many books by liberal historians of the Roosevelt era which ended the sweatshops in which poor immigrants laboured, and which doubtless made a lot of poor immigrants unemployed in the process.

The union discharged its responsibility well. Confetti rained on Mr Mondale. Much of Manhattan came to a halt. Taxi drivers cursed in many languages. Enthusiasts climbed the lamp posts. Uniformed lorry drivers, arriving to collect ladies' garments, climbed the wall. All was as it should be.

Local arbiters of such matters ruled that in spreading five blocks from 35th Street almost to 40th Street, the rally was second in size only to that for Mr John Kennedy in 1960, which covered six blocks.

It was said to be twice the size of the rallies for Mr Carter

in 1976 and 1980. Mr Carter was no great friend of old unions such as the garment workers. That could explain why, once at least, he won.

Such figures as Mr Sol C. Chaikin, the president of the union, pronounced themselves satisfied it was "historic" they agreed. Certainly, it must have been the first time a Norwegian has attracted a crowd of 100,000 - including even in Norway, certainly in Manhattan.

Mr Mondale and Mrs Ferraro mounted the platform on Seventh Avenue to be greeted by the Mayor of New York City, Mr Koch, and the Governor of New York State, Mr Cuomo. Mr Koch and Mr Cuomo shook hands with each other, and one was assured, continued to loathe each other.

Mr Mondale denounced Mr Reagan for denouncing him for not denouncing anti-Semitism in the form of the Jew, Jesse Jackson. Mr Mondale said he had fought anti-Semitism throughout his life. All this, particularly the loathing and the denunciations of anti-Semitism, were apparently traditional to the city's politics.

Elsewhere in Manhattan, the cheering citizens continued to go about the full-time business of being cynical and unimpressed by anything that happens in their city.

Mr Mondale's rally looked magnificent on the evening television news. But it would have to compete with late night television shows entirely devoted to psychiatrists assisting New Yorkers who telephone in with more pressing problems than politics. "Go and see a urologist," a typical psychiatrist reply goes.

"OK, you want me to see a neurologist."

"No, a urologist."

Silence at the other end of the line.

Furthermore, Mr Mondale may have had a great success by promising a fair deal for men who make ladies' garments, doubtless as Roosevelt did in 1944. But in 1984 this is a city so sophisticated that it is more concerned, if these television shows are anything to go by, with ensuring a fair deal for men who wear ladies' garments.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duke of Edinburgh attends meetings of World Wildlife Fund International and of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in Madrid; departs Heathrow Airport, 1.15.

The Duchess of Gloucester presents the Cup at the Finals of the National Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in Madrid; departs Heathrow Airport, 1.15.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,570

Across: 1. COW, 2. STATES, 3. CARRY, 4. LINK, 5. IDENTICAL, 6. GET, 7. BONUS, 8. PROUDLY, 9. MATERIAL, 10. BUTLER, 11. REACTION, 12. STYLISH, 13. LEGAL, 14. SOLITARY, 15. COW, 16. STATES, 17. CARRY, 18. LINK, 19. IDENTICAL, 20. GET, 21. BONUS, 22. PROUDLY, 23. MATERIAL, 24. BUTLER, 25. REACTION, 26. STYLISH, 27. LEGAL, 28. SOLITARY.

Solution of Puzzle No 16,575

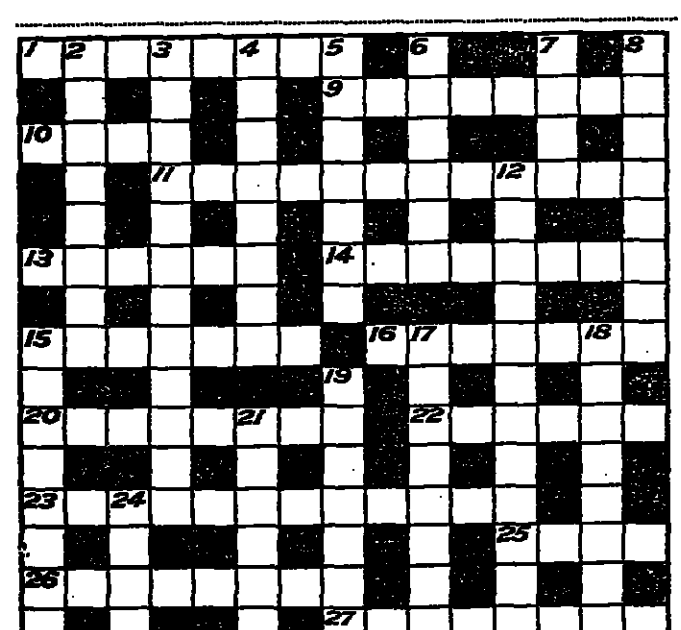
Across: 1. COW, 2. STATES, 3. CARRY, 4. LINK, 5. IDENTICAL, 6. GET, 7. BONUS, 8. PROUDLY, 9. MATERIAL, 10. BUTLER, 11. REACTION, 12. STYLISH, 13. LEGAL, 14. SOLITARY, 15. COW, 16. STATES, 17. CARRY, 18. LINK, 19. IDENTICAL, 20. GET, 21. BONUS, 22. PROUDLY, 23. MATERIAL, 24. BUTLER, 25. REACTION, 26. STYLISH, 27. LEGAL, 28. SOLITARY.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,576

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coler Street, London WC9P 9JT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: Mrs G. E. Hicks, 3 Mornington Drive, Den Lane, Winchester, Hants, SO22 5LR; Mr J. S. Sealey, Crispitts, 4 Ponters Hill, Westcott, Dorset, Dorset, RH4 3PF; Mrs A. E. Davies, 2 Tenny Road, Llanishan, Cardiff, CF11 5NS.

Name: _____ Address: _____



- ACROSS**
- Cow hit on front of head (8).
 - States following heartbreak for nymph (8).
 - Carry on business in Kenilworth Town (4).
 - Link once with outstanding performer (7,5).
 - Identical articles on CND members in country (6).
 - Get part after applause that's generous (8).
 - Bonus for strikers due to member's intervention? (3,4).
 - Proudly displayed what cheerful skipper did (7).
 - Material for coat, except for a girl (8).
 - Butler, perhaps, for the old judge (6).
 - Reaction about some of the players (12).
 - Stylish linen galled thus for the Blue Riband (4).
 - Legal ambiguity providing opening in Old Bailey? (8).
 - Solitary revolutionary on side of monarch (8).
- DOWN**
- Employ again to take top off (7,5).
 - Leave line of verse to mere poet (7,5).
 - Add to end of house - namely, with wings (8).
 - Female found in unusual habitat (7).
 - Northern port accessible in October, generally (6).
 - Dynasty celebrated in verse (4).
 - Where The Times largely appears to send Jack up (8).
 - Playing essential part? Not 7 (12).
 - Patty's bills are amended (8).
 - Work steadily without large relative, perhaps (8).
 - Atmospheric conditions studied by mathematicians (8).
 - Rodent found in River Thames, oddly (7).
 - Bully who had a brother in Paris (6).
 - Combine for American game (4).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 16

Anniversaries

Today
Birth: Karl Baedeker, founder of the guide books of that name. Essen, Germany, 1801; André Malraux, writer, Paris, 1901.

Tomorrow
Birth: Guido Reni, painter, Bologna, 1575; William, Prince of Orange, as William III reigned with Mary II (1689-1702); The Hague, 1650; James Montgomery, poet, Irvine, Ayrshire, 1771.

Deaths
Felix Mendelssohn, Leipzig, 1847; Wilfred Owen, poet, killed in action, France, 1918; Gabriel Yark, Paris, 1924, 1925; covery of the gunpowder plot, 1605.

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Roads

The Midlands: M1: Inside lane of southbound carriageway closed at junction 15 (Northampton) for roadworks; entry slip road at junction 15 closed from 7 am to 3 pm on Sunday. A52: Single lane traffic with lights between Nottingham and Grantham at Mutton Bends. M54: Only one lane eastbound at junction 6 (Telford) Salop.

Wales and West: A361: Temporary signals W of Taunton, A55: Contrailway on Llandudno by-pass between Holywell and Colwyn Bay. A40: Contrailway between Moonmouth and Abercromby Rd, at Gibraltar Tunnel.

The North: M62: Lane closures on both carriageways this weekend between junction 12 (M602 at Manchester) and junction 20 (M62/M1) Oldham. M6: Road works between junction 32 (Pres-ton) and 33 (Lancaster); contrailway on northbound; delays. A1: Tyne and Wear Through Tyne Tunnel is closed until 7 am Monday 4th November bridges; delays expected.

Scotland: A77: Traffic control between Girvan and A714 junction, Ayrshire. A814: Clyde-side Expressway (Glasgow) slip road from the eastbound carriageway to the south-bound carriageway of the M8 (Kingston Bridge) will be closed from 12 pm today until 6 am Monday 5th November.

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In the garden

Finish planting daffodils and all small bulbs as soon as possible as they need a long growing period. Plant daffodils so that there is 4 to 6 cm of soil above the bulb, or even deeper if planted in light soil on banks or in borders that are likely to be flooded in spring. They need plenty of water if they are to increase. Tulips may be left until the end of the month or in early December. Lilies should be planted now.

Start cutting down herbaceous plants. To save time barrowing weeds to a compost heap, dig a hole 18 ins deep here and there in the borders and bury the weeds. They will rot down eventually.

Cut out stems of loganberries and blackberries that have finished fruiting and tie the new ones in to take their place. If not already done, cut out old raspberry canes and tie in the new ones.

RH

Portfolio

For readers who may have missed a copy of The Times this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 28).

Stock	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1st	+8	+4	+1	+4	+4		
2nd	+3	+6	+5	+2	+4		
3rd	+5	+4	+3	+5	+5		
4th	+6	+3	+2	+4	+2		
5th	+3	+4	+5	+1	+2		
6th	+5	+6	+3	+2	+2		
7th	+4	+4	+1	+5	+5		
8th	+6	+2	+4	+3	+3		
9th	+3	+6	+5	+2	+5		
10th	+5	+4	+2	+5	+2		
11th	+8	+2	+3	+3	+2		
12th	+10	+3	+1	+3	+4		
13th	+11	+2	+2	+4	+4		
14th	+18	+3	+2	+4	+3		
15th	+18	+3	+1	+2	+2		
16th	+10	+2	+3	+3	+1		
17th	+10	+2	+1	+5	+1		
18th	+13	+2	+3	+2	+1		
19th	+10	+2	+2	+1	+4		
20th	+12	+4	+1	+4	+2		
21st	+3	+3	+1	+6	+3		
22nd	+3	+2	+1	+4	+4		
23rd	+5	+2	+1	+3	+4		
24th	+4	+5	+1	+6	+2		
25th	+4	+2	+1	+2	+3		
26th	+3	+4	+1	+2	+1		
27th	+8	+2	+3	+5	+5		
28th	+4	+1	+1	+6	+2		
29th	+3	+4	+2	+5	+3		
30th	+3	+1	+1	+2	+2		
31st	+4	+3	+4	+3	+3		
32nd	+1	+3	+3	+2	+1		
33rd	+3	+5	+4	+2	+2		
34th	+4	+4	+4	+5	+1		
35th	+3	+5	+5	+2	+1		
36th	+2	+4	+4	+1	+6		
37th	+2	+2	+5	+6	+1		
38th	+1	+2	+6	+1	+1		
39th	+3	+2	+4	+1	+4		
40th	+4	+2	+5	+2	+2		

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Weather forecast

An anticyclone will become established over the British Isles

6 am to midnight

London: SE, central S, SW England, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Fog early and late, sunny periods, dry, wind NW becoming variable light; max temp 13C (55F).